

Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

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## OPINION METER

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## INSIDE

### NATION



Diana Nyad becomes the first person to swim from Cuba to Florida.

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### LIFE & STYLE



The big-screen adaptation of "Fifty Shades of Grey" has cast its lead roles.

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Man in car chase says he was just having a 'good time' PAGE 3  
Inos off to Guam for 2-day security roundtable. PAGE 6

## E Land plans \$40M outlay for COP



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A "minimum" \$4 million renovation of Coral Ocean Point Resort Club has started as part of a \$40 million, multi-year investment plan for the facility, officials from E Land and Micronesia Resort Inc. said yesterday.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

**E** Land, through Micronesia Resort Inc., announced yesterday at least a \$40 million, multi-year investment plan for Coral Ocean Point Resort Club that includes a "minimum" \$4 million renovation that has just started.

Taeho Kim, chief operating officer of Micronesia Resort Inc., said the "very strong" tourism activities these days play a key role in the overall investment plan.

"We are here to stay," Kim said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* at Coral Ocean Point yesterday afternoon.

Besides the renovation of existing facilities, the overall investment plan will include construction of a new suite hotel, terrace villas, pool villas and luxury residences.

"Ultimately, the total number of rooms available will be in-

**See COP on Page 4**

## DFW chief allegedly had sex with 3 minors

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents arrested on Saturday acting CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife director Raymond Borja Roberto, who allegedly paid three minor girls to have sex with him.

Roberto, 40, also allegedly allowed a woman to videotape him having sex with one of the girls in a room in Garapan. The woman allegedly paid him \$1,000 to

**See DPW on Page 4**

## SMOOTH OPENING

Seventh graders at Hopwood Junior High School are seen lining up on campus while principal Jonas Barcinas, right, guides them during the opening of classes yesterday. Despite the increasing populations in public schools, all campuses reported a fairly smooth opening day on three islands.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

**See story on Page 5**



By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

Besides the thousands of native residents who are uninsured, a large number of nonresident workers in the Commonwealth also do not have health insurance and that, according to an insurance industry official, is ultimately harmful to the operation of the only public hospital in the CNMI.

According to Eric Plinske, Staywell Insurance branch manager for Saipan, the 2010 Census shows that more than

## 14K Asians in CNMI uninsured

» **'Removal of employer health coverage requirement for nonresident workers detrimental to hospital'**

14,000 Asians—mostly nonresident workers—are not covered by any health insurance firms in the CNMI.

Census records show that 34 percent of the entire CNMI population is uninsured. With the Commonwealth's population base at 52,000, that translates to 18,114 individuals with no health insurance.

Of the 34 percent uninsured people, Plinske said the bulk of them are "Asians and others" totaling 14,141—an alarming 78 percent of the 34 percent. Chamorro, Carolinians, and other Pacific Islanders, meantime, comprise only 16 percent—a total of 2,818 persons—who are not insured.

The situation was further exacerbated by the passage of Public Law 17-92 during the Fitial administration, he said. That law eliminated the employer healthcare coverage requirement for nonresident workers in the CNMI.

"Even before we had this Obamacare, there was P.L. 17-92 and I believe this local law is very detrimental to the hospital's operation," said Plinske.

"The logic of the law—for nonresidents to buy own insurance—sounds good, but the health insurance industry

**See ASIANS on Page 4**



# Local

## MINA seeks items for Green Gala auction

With its 2013 Green Gala fundraiser just a few days away, the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance knocked on the Rotary Club of Saipan's doors yesterday, hoping to solicit some items for its auction.

MINA chair Frankie Elliptico and executive director Sam Sablan were guests of the civic

organization's weekly meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan on Tuesday and the former said all appears to be set for the non-profit group's biggest

fundraiser of the year.

Elliptico said that money raised at this year's Green Gala will go a long way toward funding MINA's various year-round projects.

Among the projects Elliptico said MINA is currently involved with are the Obyan Rehabilitation Project, the Teacher Environmental Camp, the Marine Debris Prevention, Tasi Watch Project, and the Adopt-A-Bin Project.

Aside from a couple of environmental awards, MINA will also hold a silent auction of prizes and services donated by companies and individuals during the 2013 Green Gala on Sept. 7.

Elliptico asked Rotary Club members to donate items or services for the auction. Last year, for instance, several accountants and auditors offered tax services. This year, Elliptico said, a chef from Hyatt Regency actually offered to cook for one evening for a party of four as his donation for the auction.

"No prize is too small and we get what we can and accept what is offered," he said.

Rotary Club member Agnes McPhetres gave MINA and Elliptico some encouragement



MARK RABAGO

Mariana Islands Nature Alliance chair Frankie Elliptico was the Rotary Club of Saipan's guest speaker yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. Flanking him are Rotary Club president Laila Y. Boyer, left, and vice president Richard Cody.

when she egged members at the helm of companies like McDonald's Saipan, Bank of Saipan, and the like to donate items for auction.

The 6th Annual Green Gala is set for this Saturday, Sept. 7, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan Hibiscus Hall. Rotary Club's Curtis Dancoe will emcee the event.

Tickets can be bought online at [www.minapacific.org](http://www.minapacific.org) or by visiting the MINA office in Gualo Rai, next to the Division of Environmental Quality. You can also call 233-7333 (REEF).

While MINA has no title sponsors as of this time, the

grand sponsors that have so far signed up for the 2013 Green Gala include the Tan Siu Lin Foundation and the Joeten Charitable Foundation. Major sponsors include Docomo Pacific, Bank of Guam, and Bridge Capital Investments. *(Mark Rabago)*

## 100 to 150 expected for 2013 Palooza

An estimated 100 to 150 people will attend the 6th Annual PIC Palooza at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan this Saturday, Sept. 7.

PIC Saipan executive assistant Vicky Benavente said the resort will be in full party mode for the 2013 edition of the PIC Palooza.

This year's theme is "PIC Palooza—The Game Show." Benavente said that popular TV game shows like *The Price is Right*, *Card Sharks*, *Wheel of Fortune*, and *Minute to Win It*, or its variants, will be played under the supervision of the event's emcee, PIC's Glenn Policare.

Benavente said that proceeds from the event will go to the American Red Cross NMI Chapter.

"There will be fabulous prizes to win that night and an amazing menu with free-flowing beer and wine. For just \$25 a head, come on over and have fun, and support the ARC NMI Chapter!" she said.

Past beneficiaries of the PIC Palooza include the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, Guma Esperanza Women's Shelter, PAWS, Beautify CNMI, and Karidat.

The 6th Annual PIC Palooza will be held at PIC Saipan's Charley's Cabaret and doors open at 6:30pm.

Tickets for the 6th Annual Palooza can be purchased at the PIC Saipan front desk, or by calling 237-8208 or 5103. There will be appetizers, draft beer, wine, soda, and lots of games and prizes. *(Mark Rabago)*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Docomo recently signed on as a sponsor of the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance's The Green Gala, which will be on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2013. The company donated \$1,000 that will be used to help fund MINA's environmental projects. From left, Leila Hicaro, Docomo representative; Fran Castro, MINA board member; Sam Sablan, MINA executive director; and Pauline Johnson Scragg, Docomo executive. For more information about the Green Gala, visit [www.minapacific.org](http://www.minapacific.org).

## Las Vegas Night set at Fiesta Resort

The only event of the year where gambling is legal on Saipan now has a venue after the Rotary Club of Saipan announced yesterday that the 2013 Las Vegas Night will be held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Rotary Club of Saipan president Laila Y. Boyer said preparations for the civic organization's biggest fundraiser of the year will now kick into

high gear with less than two months to go before the event on Oct. 26.

"We have four government payrolls and four private payrolls to go before Las Vegas Night so we have enough time to sell our tickets," she said.

Tickets for the event can be picked up at the *Marianas Variety* office in Garapan. The Rotary Club of Saipan has

also scheduled ticket sales drives at the Thursday Market at the Garapan Fishing Base and the Joeten Superstore in San Jose on Saturdays beginning this week.

Bingo will be returning to the lineup of games for the 2013 edition of Las Vegas Night. To be hosted by former Rotary Club president Ben Bauta, bingo will join crowd favorites Texas Hold 'Em and the craps table.

For the latter, the Rotary Club

is recruiting volunteers who will be trained as craps dealers.

It was also announced that Micro Toyota will be sponsoring the 2013 Las Vegas Night's grand prize, a 2014 Toyota Yaris. The lucky winner of the grand prize has the option to take home the spanking new sedan or \$10,000 in cash.

Boyer earlier said the 2013 Las Vegas Night will be adopting a Halloween theme since the event happens just a couple of days before trick-or-treat night.

Las Vegas Night is the club's major fundraiser every year and raises funds for the organization's various community projects. Last year the event was held at the Saipan World Resort. It was graced by over a thousand players and spectators and generated gross proceeds of \$44,000.

The grand prize winner, Arnel Capati, won \$8,000 after he chose the cash award over a brand new 2012 Hyundai Accent GLS. *(Mark Rabago)*

AN ELEGANT NIGHT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



# THE GREEN GALA

SEPT 7, 2013 | 6PM – 10PM | FIESTA RESORT | \$50 | MINAPACIFIC.ORG | 233-REEF



## \$4 MILLION ROAD PROJECT

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, center, leads the groundbreaking for a \$4 million Cross Island Road improvement project Phase II-B on Thursday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## Video lottery bill clears House panel

» **Terminals only at hotels with 100 rooms-plus, airport departure areas**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The House Committee on Commerce has recommended full House passage of a bill allowing video lottery terminals in certain hotels and airport departure areas, but the measure does not specify where the generated revenues will go, such as whether it will be for the NMI Retirement Fund or other programs.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos wants any video lottery bill to specify the programs that will receive revenues from it.

The administration has looked at video lottery for debt service for an up to \$300 million pension obligation bond. The governor signed the POB authorization bill on the same day he announced a video lottery plan.

Five of the seven House Commerce Committee members, led by chairman Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), signed off on the panel report.

The committee offered a new version or House Draft 1, to allow video lottery terminals only in hotels with at least "100 rooms" or "at any departure area that is accessible to departing passengers only."

House Bill 18-100, authored by Rep. Antonio Agulto (Ind-Saipan), amends Section 1 of Public Law 3-60 by allowing video lottery terminals to be part of the operation of a public lottery.

But the bill does not limit the number of video lottery terminals allowed.

HB 18-100, HD1 may be acted on at the next House session.

Agulto's earlier plan was to allow video lottery terminals only in 10 Saipan locations, including hotels with over 250 rooms.

However, this was not included in the actual bill, only to be amended by the committee to place them only in hotels with at least 100 rooms and in airport departure areas.

Agulto said he does not believe the video lottery bill conflicts with the still pending electronic gaming bill and the casino gambling bill.

Video lottery refers to a system in which players wager on machines in which winners are chosen based on random selection done by a computer.



## Man in car chase says he was just having a 'good time'

The man who allegedly stole a van and engaged several police officers in a car chase before hitting a police vehicle in Garapan, allegedly told police that he was drinking beer while driving and was just having a "good time" during the pursuit.

Frank Manglona Sablan, 34, was taken yesterday before Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who kept him on a \$20,000 cash bail on charges of theft of vehicle, reckless driving, fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer, criminal mischief, prohibition, and obstructing justice.

Camacho remanded Sablan to the custody of the Department of Corrections.

Traffic investigator Norris Kwon stated in his report that Sablan admitted to knowing that he was being followed by police officers but that he was actually "having a good time" before he got caught.

Kwon said Sablan also ad-

mitted to drinking beer while driving because he was "trying to be cool."

Department of Public Safety spokesman Sgt. Thomas Blas Jr. said that a vehicle theft was reported to police on Monday at 3:47am, at the parking lot of Payless Supermarket in Chalan Kanoa.

When traffic officer Peter Aldan arrived at the scene, he met with Ok Jin Lee, who told him that she had gone inside the store and had left her 2013 Toyota Sienna van in the parking lot. When she returned, the van was no longer there.

At 11:02am that same day, Aldan spotted the van exiting JD Store along Chalan Monsignor Guerrero in Chalan Kiya. Aldan activated his blue lights and siren in his marked police cruiser in an attempt to make a violator stop.

The van did not stop and, instead, sped up, going up As Terlaje Hill, then toward Dandan

Road, Flame Tree Road, Kolblerville Road, Tun Thomas P. Sablan Road, Beach Road Chalan Kanoa, and finally Beach Road Garapan.

During the chase, the van was allegedly traveling between 70 to 90 miles per hour on a 35-mph zone, recklessly overtaking other vehicles using opposite travel lanes, passing through red traffic signal lights, and several near collisions with other motorists and pedestrians.

The pursuit ended only when the van became disabled after Sablan intentionally hit a

police cruiser near Hard Rock Café in Garapan.

A police officer ordered Sablan to step out of the van, but the suspect continued drinking beer and refused to get out. The officers forced Sablan out of the van and arrested him.

A breathalyzer test was conducted after less than two hours and indicated that Sablan had a blood alcohol content reading of .079 percent. The legal BAC limit in the CNMI is .08 percent.

The van had extensive damage in the front, while the police vehicle—a 2012 Nissan

Frontier crew cab—had minor damage in the front. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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## CHILD CARE LICENSING PROGRAM Informative Drive

Are you interested to open a day care program or an afterschool program? If you are and would like to know how to go about doing it, please join us in one of our Information Drive scheduled as followed:

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Every First Thursday of the Month	5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. Information Booth Only	Garapan Street Market Garapan Fishing Base
Wednesday, March 27, 2013	6:00pm. To 7:00p.m. with presentation • Minimum of 10 participants	American Memorial Park Theater
Wednesday, June 26, 2013	6:00pm. To 7:00p.m. with presentation • Minimum of 10 participants	American Memorial Park Theater
Wednesday, September 25, 2013	6:00pm. To 7:00p.m. with presentation • Minimum of 10 participants	American Memorial Park Theater
Friday, March 15, 2013	9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.	Rota DCCA Office
Friday, March 22, 2013	9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.	Tinian DCCA Office

The Child Care Licensing Program will be conducting scheduled information drive on the above dates and times. For those interested to attend the American Memorial Park Theater presentation, kindly call the Child Care Licensing Program at 664-2577 and look for Leilani Marciano to reserve your space. Only a maximum of 25 participants will be accommodated.

Approved for distribution: /s/ Melvin L.O. Faisao  
DCCA Secretary

Date: February 15, 2013

Funding from the Office of Child Care, US Department of Health and Human Services,  
Administration for Children and Families

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# Web-based tools for ‘bug busting’ helps conservation

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—Insect and other invertebrate pests can be hard to identify. They can also be a big problem for our cooperators. Sure, you can direct your clients to an extension agent but USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has some nice web-based keys and other tools available.

Created by USDA-APHIS’ Identification Technology Program, ID Tools helps to quickly identify pests, including insects, diseases, harmful weeds, and more, through an efficient, online database system. ID Tools currently

includes more than 30 websites covering a vast array of pests and pests associated with specific commodities. ITP’s ID Tools website receives about 12,000 visitors a month and is not only for experts.

Using identification key software called “Lucid,” users select a specimen’s distinguishing characteristics (e.g., color, shape, size) with the aid of illustrations and photographs; they don’t need to know the scientific terms for the specimen’s anatomy. Each characteristic chosen can eliminate up to

hundreds of possibilities and quickly narrows the search to the exact species. Users will find Lucid keys in the majority of the tools.

For example, if you wanted to use ID Tools to identify a terrestrial mollusc (think slugs and snails) that you believe is a pest species, you would first choose whether the creature has a shell. This choice immediately narrows down the possibilities, making the system vastly more efficient than a text version.

Some of the tools are specific to U.S. mainland issues and crops, but most

have some applicability in the Pacific Islands Area. There is even one dedicated to identifying invasive ants in the Pacific Islands and can be found at <http://itp.lucidcentral.org/id/ant/pia/index.html>.

If you feel that identifying characteristics is not your style, ID Tools offers users a wonderful diversity of other media to support the identification process. Many of the tools contain an image gallery, glossary, visual dictionary, and species fact sheets with descriptions and diagnostic images.

Try out ID Tools for yourself by visiting <http://www.idtools.org> to explore ITP’s many digital pest identification products. A link to this website is on our Natural Resources Conservation Service Pacific Islands Area Technical Resources Web page under Biology <http://www.pia.nrcs.usda.gov>.

“This is a handy tool for our employees to use as they are producing conservation plans to help farmers and ranchers,” stated Angel Figueroa, NRCS director of the Pacific Islands Area. **(USDA)**

## ASIANS

From Page 1

doesn’t work that way. No one can buy health insurance on their own, it has to be through an employer. So if the employer doesn’t get a policy, there’s no way they [foreign workers] can even buy, even if they wanted to,” explained Plinske.

“You cannot just come in and buy an individual policy. We used to have that in Staywell, but because of the risk that the healthcare reform is bringing with new benefit requirements,

we immediately stopped enrollment to that plan,” he said.

Additionally, he said, “there’s no way to force nonresidents to buy insurance because there is no requirement here that they have to get an insurance,” which puts the hospital at risk.

“The 78 percent [uninsured Asians] is huge...we’re talking about 14,000 people, mostly contract workers here. The CNMI is one with the highest numbers” of uninsured among insular areas, he said.

Plinske said that P.L. 17-92 is something that the CNMI government and Legislature must

seriously look at or it will negative ripples effects, including overburdening the Commonwealth Health Center.

“We should have something in the CNMI that protect our CHC, because it’s facing a serious risk,” Plinske said, alluding to the scenario that these thousands of non-insured will end up lining at the emergency unit of the public hospital. “When rates go up, people will cancel coverage...[and] more people will end up walking to the CHC seeking treatment for their illnesses.”

### Rate increase

Plinske met with members of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board last week to share the same information. He pointed out that the Affordable Care Act, more commonly known as Obamacare, has provisions that don’t apply to territories such as the CNMI.

Among these components, he said, are employer mandate; individual mandate; no health insurance exchange or subsidy program; no protections for health insurance companies through reinsurance, risk corridors, and risk management program offered by the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services.

Obamacare, Plinske said, even wants inclusion of coverage requirements for transplants, joint replacements, hemodialysis, genetic testing, implantable, and others.

“What the healthcare reform [law] is supposed to do is to require insurance companies to add benefits such as ‘no denial of pre-existing condition’ requirement. And there’s no way we can enforce this unless we have a balance here and that is the individual and employer mandate,” he said.

“Individual” and “employer” mandates refer to provisions that will require all individuals and employers to obtain health insurance.

In the CNMI, most health insurance clients are categorized under “small group.”

“One hundred percent of our market here are small group [with less than a hundred people] and we have zero ‘large group’ market in the CNMI,” said Plinske.

He expressed hope that calls for amending P.L. 17-92 will be supported by the CHCC board and the Legislature.

## DFW

From Page 1

make the sexually explicit video.

The girl was one of the two minors that firefighter Richard S. Benavente allegedly also had sex with. All three minors involved were 15 years old when the sexual conducts happened, according to the FBI.

Roberto was taken to the U.S. District Court for the NMI yesterday for his initial appearance on charges of coercion and enticement. Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted the U.S. government’s motion to unseal the case.

Roberto appeared with his lawyer, Joaquin Torres. As-

sistant U.S. attorney Rami Badawy represented the U.S. government.

For now, Roberto remains detained pending future proceedings.

His detention hearing will be on Sept. 6 at 2:30pm. Preliminary hearing will be on Sept. 17 at 9am.

FBI special agent Haejun Park stated in his affidavit that the investigation began on July 16, 2013, when the Department of Public Safety received a tip through the Crime Stoppers Program about the sexual abuse of a minor.

Park said the tipster also emailed a video file that depicted 43-year-old firefighter Benavente having sex with the minor.

Benavente and the woman who allegedly supplied the girls, Annette Nakatsukasa Basa, were recently arrested by FBI agents for alleged exploitation and sex trafficking of two female minors.

Park said further investigation showed that Roberto, the acting DFW director, used his cell phone on several occasions to arrange meetings with one of the girls so that they could have sex, for which he paid her cash.

Park said that during his interview with one of the girls, she disclosed that she began having sex with Roberto on the same day she ran away from home in March 2013.

Park said the girl told him that she had sex with Roberto at

a motel in Gualo Rai about 10 different times. Roberto also allegedly had sex with the girl at his house on Airport Road and at a farm next to the Benavente Apartments in As Lito.

On at least one occasion at the same motel in Gualo Rai, Roberto also allegedly had sex with two other 15-year-old girls.

On another occasion, Roberto allegedly brought the first girl to a room inside a building in Garapan, where she met an unidentified Chinese woman.

After Roberto and the girl finished having sex, he allegedly told her that the Chinese woman filmed them and paid him \$1,000 for the video. The girl claimed that Roberto gave her \$100 for this encounter.

Park said the girl admitted that Roberto paid her between \$40 and \$150 for each sexual encounter.

Roberto allegedly used the name “Jerald” in his cell phone and would text the girl when he wanted to meet her for sex.

Park said the last time the girl had sex with Roberto was in early July 2013 at the farm where he paid her \$40.

Park said that in his interview with the other girl, the minor disclosed that “Jerald” picked her up and two other minor girls at store in Kagman and brought them to a motel where he allegedly engaged in oral sex with her and later had sex with the third girl. Afterward, “Jerald” gave each of the three girls \$100.

Park said in his interview with the third girl, she recalled that she met “Jerald” during the Flame Tree Arts Festival in April 2013. The girl later identified “Jerald” from a photograph as Roberto.

Park said the girl stated that Roberto picked her up and two other minor girls in Kagman and drove them to a motel where he had sex with her. He then gave her \$300, of which she gave \$100 to the other girl.

Park said his review of records from the motel indicate that an individual driving a vehicle with a license plate number registered to Roberto paid for rooms at the motel on 12 different occasions from March 24, 2013, to Aug. 6, 2013.

## COP

From Page 1

creased from 94 rooms to 443 rooms. And we strongly believe that COP will make a big contribution in the growth of CNMI’s tourism market,” Kim said.

The overall development plan will take three to five years to complete.

When the number of hotel rooms at Coral Ocean Point goes up to 443 as planned, that would require at least 800 employees and that would mean employment for hundreds of additional employees.

Coral Ocean Point operations manager Kwangwon “Dennis” Seo served as translator for Kim during the interview.

E Land Construction Co., E Land Design Co., and E Land Development Co. will be fully involved in this development project, Kim added.

Press secretary Angel Dema-

pan said yesterday the administration always welcomes new development, especially when it stands to benefit the economy and most especially tourism, the Commonwealth’s primary industry.

In recent months, the CNMI has been experiencing tremendous upticks in visitor arrivals.

“In fact, some charter flights have had to be canceled due to a shortage in hotel rooms. Thus, the addition of 80 more rooms at COP would certainly help the visitor industry address the shortage and pave the way for more tourists to visit the CNMI,” Demapan said.

The overall plan seeks to increase total COP rooms to 443 in years’ time.

E Land/MRI’s announcement yesterday of its \$40 million investment plan for COP came a few days after Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio said DPL received, re-

viewed, and approved Suwaso Corp.’s renovation plan for Coral Ocean Point.

Suwaso and E Land/Micronesia Resort Inc. are leasing the land where COP sits. E-Land is reportedly the new majority owner of COP.

### Renovation

Kim said there is \$4 million readily available for the renovation of existing facilities at Coral Ocean Point. A bank has certified the amount, and DPL also received such certification.

“We believe that COP will be reborn as a resort facility to give enjoyment with full service to our customers,” he said.

Kim said DPL asked that the renovation be completed before the “high season,” but possible delays as a result of shipment of construction and other materials may push back the completion date.

“We are going to do our best to finish the renovation as early

as possible... As you know, there are not enough hotel rooms in the CNMI at the moment so once the renovation of COP is completed, they will add more to the available rooms in the CNMI,” the official said.

They secured a permit for renovation from the Department of Public Works on Aug. 27.

They have also obtained approval from related agencies such as the Zoning Office, Historic Preservation Office, Division of Environmental Quality, and Coastal Resources Management, he said.

“Now we are very excited about our renovation,” Kim said. “We already submitted a certification that [we have] \$4 million in a local bank. It is not all, but a part of our investment for renovation plan for COP.”

The renovation plan covers 80 hotel rooms, the central building, the swimming pool, the golf cart parking lot, golf carts, and public beach im-

provements.

The central building has a front desk, a golf shop, lobby, restaurants and café. Kim said this will be one of COP’s landmarks, along with a beautiful golf course.

At present, only COP’s golf course, golf shop and restaurant are operating.

Kim said the facility currently has 40 employees.

Once the renovation is completed, they would need at least 40 additional employees.

Demolition at hotel rooms has started, Kim said. They have also received some construction materials from Korea and China. Other materials will be coming from the U.S. and Japan.

DPL’s Tenorio said last week that without a renovation plan, the COP land lease may be terminated.

Coral Ocean Point is located on a 735,023-square meter property at Agingan Point.

### Other plans

Kim said E Land/Micronesia Resort Inc. has also plans for its other hotels on Saipan—Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio and the former The Palms Resort in San Roque—but said he will discuss these plans at a later date.

Micronesia Resort Inc. was also one of the seven investor groups that responded to DPL’s request for proposal to lease public lands in Marpi and San Antonio to build hotels with at least 200 rooms each.

An ad hoc committee has yet to review the proposals from the seven investor groups.

The CNMI currently lacks hotel rooms to meet the demands of steadily increasing tourism arrivals to the islands. Gov. Eloy S. Inos earlier said it would be best if the offline hotel rooms will be in operation again, complemented by new hotel developments to meet the demand.



# Opening day of classes in public schools fairly smooth

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

Except for minor issues, the Public School System marked another "fairly smooth" opening of the school year yesterday, according to school administrators.

The largest school on Saipan, Marianas High School, welcomed a total of 1,466 enrollees yesterday. Its principal, Cheryl Cabrera, attributed the smooth flow of operation to her teachers and staffers who went through the proper planning, with the aid of the PSS leadership in expediting the processing of her needed workforce.

Cabrera got the 46 teachers she needed this year. By dividing them with the initial enrollment, the students-to-teacher ratio on campus is 32:1. Though this may still be high, Cabrera said this may still change in the coming days. MHS has two vice principals and is in the process of getting another one.

What excites and pleases Cabrera the most is the new "time commitment" made by her teachers, who have vowed to stay on campus until 4:30pm each day. Classes in secondary schools are from 8:30am to 2:45pm. In previous years, teachers were given leeway to go home after their instructional hours. This year, their time commitment will go into more planning, tutoring, mentoring, and making themselves available to parents who may want to see and talk about their children.

Despite the funding challenges of the entire school district, Cabrera said that MHS' focus is on the upcoming accreditation visit in October. She also wants to make sure that the desired proficiency in math and reading for students will be achieved.

At Hopwood Junior High School, the largest public middle school in the CNMI, students spent their first day in their homeroom classes.

Hopwood enrollment as of yesterday was at 1,209, of which over 600 are seventh graders. Registration still continues and the number is expected to slightly change.

Out of the 45 teachers it needs, Hopwood currently has 39. Based on the enrollment of 1,209 against 39 teachers, Hopwood's students-to-teacher ratio was at 33:1 as of yesterday.

Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas admitted that one of his bigger worries is the lack of "immediate replacements or substitutes" for teachers who may not be able to report for work. If this happens, he said

## PSS appoints 4 new principals and 6 new vice principals

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Many students welcomed yesterday not only the beginning of a new school year but also new administrators, many of whom are their former classroom teachers.

*Saipan Tribune* confirmed with the Public School System that it appointed four new principals and six new vice principals for this new school year.

The new principals were assigned in three high schools and one in the elementary. They include Leila Staffler, who was named the new principal of Kagman High School, where she used to be its vice principal. Former principal Alfred Ada has been transferred to the PSS central office to be the Career and Technological Education program coordinator.

Saipan Southern High School has new school administrators too, following the designation of Jonathan Cabrera as principal. He was the school's Teacher of the Year awardee last year. He succeeds Lyn Mendiola, the

### »Seven schools remain without vice principals

former SSSH principal, who is now with another school.

Another new principal, Jennifer San Nicolas, now heads the Tinian Jr./Sr. High School, replacing Eric San Nicolas after the latter left PSS at the end of last school year.

Connielou Manglona, meantime, replaced Dionne Santos as principal at Tinian Elementary School effective this new school year.

Six others were named vice principals. They are assigned in one high school, two middle schools, and three elementary campuses.

Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas confirmed that former SSSH principal Mendiola is now one of his vice principals, effective this year. Hopwood now has three vice principals: Mendiola, Epi Cabrera, and Jocelyn Manibusan.

A new vice principal was also named for SSSH, Glen Smith. The position has been vacant at the school after the departure of Jocelyn Manibusan, who is now vice principal at Hopwood

since last school year.

Koblerville Elementary School, which hasn't had any vice principal for several years, has named a new one to the post: Jeremiah Benavente.

San Vicente Elementary School also found a new vice principal in Ana Guerrero while Kagman Elementary got Peter Arriola.

Also on the list of fortunate schools that were able to get their much needed vice principal is the new Chacha Oceanview Middle School following the designation of Elisa Muña to the post. Chacha is home to 300-plus students this school year.

### Schools with no VP's

Hiring at PSS has been hobbled for many years due to scarce resources and budget constraints. Among the positions that have been adversely affected are the vice principal, counselor, and classroom teacher posts.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that PSS currently limits its hiring

of vice principals and counselors, among others, particularly in small schools.

At present, seven public schools have no vice principals: Tanapag, Oleai, Gregorio T. Camacho, San Antonio, Tinian, and Sinapalo elementary schools; and Tinian Jr./Sr. High School.

Hopwood's Barcinas, the principals' representative for secondary schools, confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that these small schools were given the option to hire either a vice principal or a counselor. A school is considered small if it has a population of only 300-plus students.

Meantime, 13 schools now have their much-needed vice principals this school year: six in elementary; two in middle school; and four in high school.

At Marianas High School, principal Cheryl Cabrera confirmed that she has two vice principals—John Davis and Hazel Tudela—and need one more to replace former

vice principal Martin Dalsaso. MHS is home to 1,466 students as of yesterday.

At Kagman High School, vice principal Eric Magofna assist principal Staffler.

SSHS has Glen Smith, Chacha Oceanview Middle School has Elisa Muña; Hopwood has Jocelyn Manibusan, Epi Cabrera, and Lyn Mendiola; and Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./Sr. High School has Annette Calvo.

Elementary schools that have vice principals include KagES (Peter Arriola); SVES (Ana Guerrero); Koblerville (Jeremiah Benavente); WSR (Marjie Ann Pangelinan); Dandan Elementary (Reo Arriola); and Garapan Elementary (Leila Yumul).

Barcinas said that school administrators play an important role in the desired success on student achievements. Despite the continuing challenges of public education as a result of its limited budget, he said administrators have remained committed and dedicated in their work—all for the love of bringing quality education to students.



Barcinas

that a class, for example in social studies, will be split with other social studies classes.

Of his 39 teachers, Barcinas disclosed that five are instructors who have separate requirements from

classroom teachers. Instructors/teacher aides need only possess degrees and are not required to pass both Praxis tests. He admitted that employing many instructors may lead to "questions or concerns" from parents on the quality of education.

Barcinas is also concerned that at least four buildings and two separate rooms were found to be infested by the termites and are unsafe for students in the long run. These are Bldgs. A, C, D, E and the physical education room and the vocational education room.

Besides the termite-infested

buildings, parking at the school is also unsafe for students, according to Barcinas. Under the current setup, all vehicles, including school buses and guests' vehicles, are allowed entry inside the campus for pickup and drop-off.

### Tinian, Rota opening

A smooth opening was also reported on Rota and Tinian yesterday.

Annette Calvo, vice principal of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. and Sr. High School, told *Saipan Tribune* that all 260 students this year arrived on time, ready for their first day of classes. Schedules have been prepared since last week for all students. The school has 11 teachers and a students-to-teacher ratio of between 24:1 and 25:1 as of yesterday.

At the Tinian Jr. and Sr. High School, principal Jennifer San Nicolas said the school welcomed 264 students yesterday. The school has 16 teachers and an average ratio of 25:1, al-

though San Nicolas admitted that a few classes have up to 30 students for now.

A former elementary school teacher, San Nicolas is excited to begin her new experience

in secondary school. Among her goals is to increase student achievement on Tinian.

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Providing our CNMI families the essential tools to live a safe healthy lifestyle while still respecting one culture, values, and beliefs.

## TOWNHALL MEETING

### WHO

Families with pregnant mothers and/or with an infant no older than 3 months of age who live in San Antonio, Koblerville and Kagman Village

### WHEN/WHERE

September 06, 2013 – Pacific Islands Club (Residents of San Antonio and Koblerville Village)

September 13, 2013 – Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort (Residents of Kagman Village)

### TIME

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Registration starts at 6:00 p.m.



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**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
RFP 13-OPA-158**

**SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2013      TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"SINGLE AUDIT OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT WITH A SEPARATE FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION (CHCC) FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2013"**

THE SINGLE AUDIT GUIDELINES AND SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE PUBLIC AUDITOR'S MAIN OFFICE AT 1236 YAP DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, EXCEPT HOLIDAYS.

INQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO MR. DAVID BLAKE, OPA AUDIT MANAGER AT TELEPHONE NUMBERS (670) 322-6481/2 OR BY FACSIMILE TO (670) 322-7812.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT. ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO THE PROPOSER.

/S/ MICHAEL PAI  
PUBLIC AUDITOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S



# Governor off to Guam for 2-day security roundtable

» If Hofschneider remains out of CNMI, Senate president becomes acting governor

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos will be attending a two-day regional security roundtable in Guam and, in his absence from the CNMI, Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) may become acting governor if Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider remains off island on Thursday and Friday.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the governor leaves

on Thursday for the two-day roundtable hosted by the Guam-U.S.-Asia Security Alliance, or GUASA, at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

As of yesterday, the administration was still awaiting Hofschneider's return schedule, Demapan said.

Hofschneider is in the U.S. mainland on personal leave.

Demapan and the lieutenant governor's counsel, Wes Bogdan, will be accompanying the

governor to Guam.

"In the absence of an MIMC [Military Integration Management Committee] coordinator, the two of us are currently working together on military matters of mutual interest to the governments of the CNMI and Guam," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The GUASA roundtable brings together some of the nation's top intelligence analysts and national security experts in a bid to give

clarity to calls for rebalancing U.S. interests in the area.

Organizers hope that the Sept. 5 and 6 roundtable will help define exactly what President Barack Obama means by "repositioning" in the region.

Demapan said the governor will not be delivering remarks at the event.

"This is a roundtable type of conference wherein government leaders will receive briefings from expert participants

such as retired Assistant Secretary of State Carl W. Ford Jr. and former USAID Assistant Administrator Dr. Patrick Cronin," Demapan said.

He said the conference will address key issues such as the U.S. military's strategic depth in the region, basing options, future operational concepts, and the anticipated roles of the CNMI, Guam, and Micronesia as it relates to the military's proposed plans for the region.

The conference comes at a time when the CNMI also finds

itself having concerns with some of the U.S. Department of Defense's plans, especially the military's insistence on placing a divert airfield on Saipan when CNMI officials are unified in their position to place it on Tinian instead.

Two-thirds of Tinian lands are already under lease to DoD.

The U.S. military also plans live-fire training ranges on Tinian and Pagan, which has also drawn concerns and some outright opposition from CNMI residents.

## House panel OKs criminalizing sale, resale of AAFES items

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A bill that would criminalize the sale and resale of products bought from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, com-

monly known as troop store, is inching forward. A similar bill was also prefled yesterday, but pertains to the resale not only of AAFES merchandise.

The House Committee on Commerce recommended

House Bill 18-88's passage by the full House, but with amendments aimed at strengthening the bill's intent.

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero's (Cov-Saipan) House Bill 18-88 or the AAFES Fraud and

Abuse Prevention Act of 2013 seeks to criminalize, punish, and deter the sale and resale of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, and other merchandise obtained from AAFES.

Under Leon Guerrero's bill,

any licensee, his agent, or employee violating the law could be fined not less than \$1,000 and/or imprisoned for at least 90 days for each violation.

Subsequent violations within a two-year period could result in the immediate revocation of Alcoholic Beverage Control license.

Currently, there are no provisions that allow for the criminal prosecution of selling and reselling AAFES items that would serve as both a deterrent and punishment.

The bill authorizes the CNMI Department of Commerce's Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Control Division, the Department of Public Safety, and the Office of the Attorney General to enforce and prosecute violations of the proposed law.

Those convicted twice or more within a two-year period would not be allowed to hold any class of license for five years from the date of the most recent conviction.

AAFES exists solely for the use and benefit of its authorized

patrons, which include active duty military, retirees, reservists, National Guard personnel, U.S. Department of Defense employees when stationed outside the continental United States, U.S. Department of State officials serving in foreign countries, and dependents of these individuals with issued ID cards.

House Speaker Joseph DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), meanwhile, prefled yesterday HB 18-122, imposing a penalty on persons who acquire and sell goods upon which excise tax has not been paid.

In a phone interview, DeLeon Guerrero said these goods also cover those obtained from AAFES.

Under the speaker's bill, any person who is not exempt from the payment of excise tax that offers goods for sale upon which excise tax has not been paid is subject to a penalty equal to 100 percent of the retail value of the goods.

Such goods, according to the bill, are also subject to forfeiture.

## Okadaya: Carving a niche for itself

When Ebisuya closed shop last year, Mayumi Suzuki saw a golden opportunity to finally open a Japanese snack bar on Saipan.

Suzuki and chef Shunsuke Katagiri first came to Saipan six years ago when they were invited by Aqua Resort Club to demonstrate the finer points of making buckweath noodles from scratch.

Even then, Suzuki already had dreams of opening her own establishment on island and that finally come into fruition when Okadaya opened its doors in December 2012.

Okadaya supervisor Marivic Vergel said their snack bar specializes in Japanese bento meals and bakery products, which builds on the expertise of its predecessor at the strategic Susupe location across Saipan World Resort.

She said it's good that Okadaya basically inherited the patron base of Ebisuya and much better that the newly opened snack bar retained its old staff who, in turn, have continued to churn out the goodies and treats customers love.

While Okadaya kept the spirit of Ebisuya in the way it runs its business, Vergel said they also had to shake things up a bit.

While the former tenant of the building sold select bakery products for 99 cents every Wednesday, Okadaya does this promotion every Saturday so office workers can enjoy their treats during the weekend.

Okadaya also retained sure-fire hits like blueberry cream cheese and pizza-pan breads but it has also made sure to offer clients its tasty and spongy cakes like blueberry cheesecake and chocolate cakes. It can be bought in

slices or as a whole.

The full-size cakes come in 8"x12" and 12"x16" dimensions and only cost from \$35 to \$45. Vergel said their cakes are perfect for birthdays, anniversaries, and other celebrations.

Aside from their bakery products, Okadaya is also frequented by office workers from Saipan's southern part because of its Japanese bento meals like kat-sudon, teriyaki, yakisoba, yaki-

udon, and the like.

Vergel said all their bento meals are made fresh and their cooks only use authentic Japanese ingredients.

Their breakfast fare—a fusion of Japanese and Chamorro cuisine—is also creating quite a stir as fried rice with any combination of cold cuts like hotdog, bacon, corned beef, and Spam have become fast favorites.

Suzuki also reminded Vergel

that Okadaya also accepts order of sushi platters of any kind for a mere \$30. The orders, however, should be made a day in advance.

Okadaya comfortably seats 30 at its dine-in establishment. It is open from 7am to 8:30pm, Monday to Saturday.

It also offers free delivery anywhere on Saipan—even Kagman—for a minimum purchase of five bento meals. For more information or for home deliveries, call 235-2588. (Mark Rabago)

**CONTACT INFO**  
Tel: 235-2588



Okadaya owner Mayumi Suzuki poses with her staff in front of the Japanese snack bar that opened late last year in Susupe.

MARK RABAGO

## A WEEK BEFORE JURY TRIAL

### OAG withdraws criminal charges vs Yoon

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General decided yesterday to voluntarily withdraw the criminal charges against businessman Ho Jin Yoon, who is accused of sexually abusing a 6-year-old girl.

Chief prosecutor Shelli Neal told Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho that they find it necessary to conduct additional investigation.

Neal filed a motion for *nolle prosequi* ("do not prosecute"). Attorney Richard W. Pierce, counsel for Yoon, did not object.

Camacho granted the motion and vacated the jury trial presently set for Monday, Sept. 9. Camacho ordered that Yoon's \$50,000 cash bail be exonerated.

*Nolle prosequi*, according to law books, refers to a motion by a prosecutor or other plaintiff to drop legal charges, usually in exchange for a diversion program or out-of-court settlement. Such a motion is usually filed when the charges cannot be proved, the evi-

dence has demonstrated either innocence or a fatal flaw in the prosecution's claim, or the prosecutor no longer believes that the accused is guilty.

It is not, however, a guarantee that the person won't be recharged.

In the government's motion, Neal disclosed that in the government's meeting with the child, they received information that was not provided in previous interviews conducted by the Department of Public Safety and Division of Youth Services, which requires further investigation.

"Proceeding with this case without further development and investigation by DPS and trained forensic interviewers does not serve the interest of justice as material facts are missing [that] may change or alter the outcome of the government's charging document," Neal said.

Police arrested Yoon in March 2013. He owns four retail stores on Saipan and one retail store in Guam. He denied the charges and later posted a \$50,000 cash bail.



# Red Cross urges households to prepare for emergencies

## »Developing an emergency plan is the first step

Disasters can strike quickly and often without warning. During National Preparedness Month, the American Red Cross NMI Chapter encourages all households to get ready for the next emergency or disaster.

"Having a game plan in place is essential for all households so everyone knows what they should do when an emergency occurs," said Claudine Atalig, Disaster Action team leader. "National Preparedness Month is a perfect time for residents of the Commonwealth to create or update their plan."

During September, the NMI Chapter will host training class-

es as well as informational outreach to help families develop their Disaster Plan, receive preparedness tips, and learn more about preparedness in the community.

**MAKE A PLAN:** It is important that everyone in the household helps put the emergency plan together and knows what they should do if something occurs. Household members may not be together when a disaster happens—during the day many people are at work and school. The plan should include ways to contact one another and two predetermined places to meet—one near the home in case of a sud-

den emergency like a fire, and one outside the neighborhood in case circumstances prevent people from returning home. People should also identify an emergency contact person from outside the area in case local telephone lines are overloaded or out of service.

Any emergency plan should also include decisions about where family members will go if ordered to evacuate and what route they will take to get there. It's a good idea to include alternate routes in case roads are closed. If pets are part of the household, make

sure to include plans for them such as pet-friendly hotels and animal shelters along the evacuation route.

**RED CROSS APPS:** The Red Cross has free mobile apps that provide information on what to do before, during and after emergencies including developing an emergency plan. "People can use the 'Make a

Plan' feature in the apps to create their plan and then share it with their loved ones," said Atalig. "The preloaded content in the apps gives people access to vital information to use during emergencies, even if they can't connect to the internet."

The apps can be downloaded from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store for Android by searching for American Red Cross.

**OTHER WAYS TO GET READY:** Another step to get one's household ready is to build an emergency kit in a container that is easy to carry so the family can use it at home or take it with them if asked to evacuate. It should contain a three-day supply of water (one gallon, per person, per day), nonperishable food, a flashlight, battery-powered or hand-crank radio, extra batteries, a first aid kit, a 7-day supply of medications, a multi-purpose tool, sanitation

and personal hygiene items, and copies of important personal documents. The Red Cross also recommends having at least two weeks worth of emergency supplies at home.

Everyone also needs to stay informed about what types of disasters are most likely to occur where they live or where they plan to visit. It is also important to take a First Aid and CPR/AED course—a vital component of disaster preparedness in case emergency help is delayed.

For more information on how to prepare for emergencies, people can visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) or contact the NMI Chapter at 234-3459. (ARC)

### FOR MORE INFO

Web: [redcross.org](http://redcross.org)  
Tel: 234-3459

## Democratic Party chair attends DNC, ASDC meetings

Edward Manibusan, chairman of the Democratic Party of the Northern Marianas, recently attended the Democratic National Committee and the Association of State Democratic Chairs summer meetings in Scottsdale, Arizona. The chairpersons and state party executive directors, National Committee members from state parties throughout the United States including Democrats from abroad, attended the meetings.

Several Democratic members of Congress, including DNC chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Shultz and Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii, who is also the DNC vice chair, also attended the meetings.

Among the topics discussed were federal election financing laws, President Barack Obama's initiatives on the Affordable



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Democratic National Committee chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Democratic Party of the Northern Marianas chair Edward Manibusan have their picture taken at the recent DNC meeting.

Health Care Act, immigration, minimum wage, gun control and voting rights. The President welcomed the members by telephone and thanked them for their work in running their state parties and for making sure that the Democratic Party initiatives were carried forward.

"I am encouraged by the President's message and guests who spoke at the meeting. The President spoke of the importance of education by proposing new reforms to make college more affordable to middle class families and those fighting to get into the middle class," said Manibusan.

In a statement, the DNC lauded the efforts of Democrats who are "working hard to make sure that that everyone finds a secure job that pay enough to support themselves and their family, to

have access to good education, a home that is not at risk of being taken away, a retirement free of financial anxiety, and secure health care with decent benefits."

Manibusan said: "We must all get involved in order to bring and lasting changes in our community. I encourage everyone, especially our young men and women, to participate in our political process, to make sure that their generation has a stable future. Politics have consequences. We are seeing those devastating consequences now, resulting from years of neglect and diligence by those who governed. I would like to encourage our citizens to join the Democratic Party of the Northern Marianas and be part of the political process." (Democratic Party of the Northern Marianas)

## Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce launched

**HAGATNA, Guam**—Founding board members of the first ever Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce announced yesterday the formal establishment of their organization, with its vision being

"an economy driven and influenced by the equal participation of women in business, commerce, and trade."

The founding board members of the GWCC are Lou A. Leon Guerrero, president;

Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez, vice president; Denise Mendiola-Hertslet, secretary; and Toni Sanford, treasurer. Other founding board members include Siska Hutapea, Vanessa Ji, Jackie Marati, Doyon Ahn

Morato and Dr. Mary A.Y. Okada. Executive director is Eileen Agahan.

The group's website is [www.guamwcc.com](http://www.guamwcc.com), and it has Facebook and LinkedIn accounts. Telephone contact number is

(671) 487-7022. GWCC's membership packet is downloadable from its website, and its annual fee is \$100 per year. The group's calendar of events is also available at its website. The first general membership meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2013. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Eileen Agahan, executive director; Jackie Marati, board member; Toni Sanford, board member and treasurer; Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez, board member and vice president; Vanessa Ji, board member; Siska Hutapea, board member; Lou Leon Guerrero, board member and president; Dr. Mary Okada, board member; Doyon Ahn Morata, board member; Denise Mendiola-Hertslet, board member and secretary.

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### Oleai Elementary activities

Oleai Elementary School will host an Open House for parents and guardians of kindergarten to 6<sup>th</sup> grade students on Thursday, Sept. 5, 2013, from 4pm to 6pm in your child(s) respective classrooms. Also, the first PTSA meeting for the school year will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2013, at 6pm in the school cafeteria. Parents and guardians are encouraged to attend these important activities. (PR)

#### Chamber meeting today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will host its September monthly general membership luncheon meeting at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan today, Sept. 4, 2013, from 11:30am to 1pm. Keynote speaker is Gerry Perez, chairman of the Guam Chamber of Commerce. Also speaking will be acting Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Alan Fletcher. Luncheon at the Fiesta Resort and Spa is \$20 for Chamber members, and \$30 for guests and the general public. (PR)

#### Registration for ukulele class extended to Sept. 11

The registration for the 2013 Summer Ukulele Lessons at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library has been extended to Sept. 11. The ukulele class, which is from Sept. 12 to Oct. 31, is open to children 8 years or older and adults and encompasses eight hours. It costs \$50 and will be held from 4pm to 5:30pm every Thursday. Registration is on a first-come, first-paid basis. For more information about the 2013 summer ukulele class, visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe or call 235-7316 or 235-7322-23, fax 235-7550. (PR)



# Observers help crack down on illegal tuna fishing

Evidence given by Pacific Island fisheries observers has helped secure judgments against the owners, operators, and fishing masters of six tuna purse seiners, with heavy fines imposed—over \$1.5 million in total.

All of the boats had been accused of fishing on fish aggregating devices during the FAD ban in 2009, a measure put in place across the region to reduce catches of small bigeye tuna. Several vessels were also charged with placing FADs during the closure, and setting their nets on whales.

The observers gave evidence in two long-running court cases brought by U.S. authorities who enforce regulations on their own fleet fishing in Pacific Island waters, under the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act and the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

An official of the Enforcement Section of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration paid tribute to the six Pacific Islanders.

“The observers were the heart of the cases and did a terrific job. The judge’s decision demonstrates that he found the observers credible, trustworthy and persuasive,” said Alexa Cole, the section’s deputy chief.

The observers—from Solo-



Pacific Island fisheries observer at work on a purse seiner.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

mon Islands, Marshall Islands, and Federated States of Micronesia—testified in Honolulu in early 2012. All six had been placed onboard the vessels by the Forum Fisheries Agency and had been trained by staff of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

An observer training officer from SPC informed the court about the training that observers receive and the Pacific Island regional observer standards that they have to meet. An economist from FFA was also called to testify about the value of tuna catches—an important factor in setting the penalties.

Observers are trained to col-

lect scientific information on fishing operations and catches, as well as to report any illegal fishing activities.

SPC and FFA have been supporting the development of national observer programs in their Pacific Island member countries for many years, and some 700 observers are now deployed. Purse-seine vessels fishing in the region must carry an observer at all times. Observer training is currently supported by a number of development partners—the European Union, New Zealand, Australia, and Japan—but most other costs of the observer program are recovered from the fishing industry. (SPC)

## EAPSI grant available for graduate students

The Office of Grants Management announced yesterday a grant opportunity for the East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes for U.S. Graduate Students, or EAPSI. An EAPSI award provides U.S. graduate students in science, engineering, and education with first-hand research experiences in Australia, China, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore, or Taiwan. The program also

provides an introduction to the science, science policy, and scientific infrastructure of the respective location and an orientation to the society, culture, and language. EAPSI awards will help students initiate professional relationships to enable future collaboration with foreign counterparts.

Proposals may only be submitted by individual graduate students, not through the

institutions at which they are enrolled. This requires that, during the application process, each student registers as an institution and serves as his or her own Authorized Organizational Representative.

For the full description of the grant, access grants.gov or the direct link at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=241319>. (Office of the Governor)

## Bereaved Families support group meeting

A group that is in the process of forming a Compassionate Friends chapter on Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Sept. 5, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road in Gualo Rai.

We offer understanding and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our

experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. We have “been there.” We do not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no “right way” to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today

more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and Guam offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, call Jill Derickson at 287-5337 or e-mail [jilld@pticom.com](mailto:jilld@pticom.com). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at [www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org). (PR)

## NMC Adult Basic Education Session II important dates

The Northern Marianas College’s Adult Basic Education program, which focuses on meeting the educational needs of adult learners, has announced the following important dates for Session II that begins in October:

- Sept. 23-34: Registration for Ongoing/Returning Students, 10am-4pm, ABE Office in Building T
- Sept. 25-26: Registration for New Students, 10am-4pm, ABE Office in Building T
- Sept. 27 & 30: Late Registration, 9am-4pm, ABE Office in Building T
- Sept. 27 & Oct. 4: Late CASAS Assessment Tests, 9:30am and 1pm
- Sept. 30 – Oct. 4: Add/Drop Course(s) Week, 8am-5pm, ABE Office in Building T
- Oct. 1: Student Orientation, 5pm-6pm, ABE Office in Building T
- Oct. 2: First Day of Instruction

New students and those who have been out of the ABE program for over a year *must* make an appointment at the Adult Basic Education Office in Building T to take the CASAS Assessment Test.

Also, the ABE program is currently closing out the 2002 GED Test Series, which means that those planning to take the GED National Test for the first time must take the computer-based GED national tests (\$24 per test). Additional information is available at the ABE Office in Building T.

Note that this schedule is subject to change. For additional information, contact ABE at 237-6713 or visit [www.marianas.edu](http://www.marianas.edu). (NMC)

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS’ HEADLINES

September 4, 2005

### Govt deficit at \$118.4M

The latest annual audit report showed that the CNMI government posted an outstanding budget deficit of \$118.4 million ending Sept. 30, 2003. The May 23, 2005 audit report by Deloitte & Touche obtained by Saipan Tribune showed that as of September 2003, the General Fund’s total “unreserved fund balance deficit” totaled \$118.4 million—an increase of 13.3 percent from the prior year’s deficit. The report said that during the period, the General Fund balance deficit increased by \$13.06 million or 13.9 percent to a total fund balance deficit of \$93.9 million, while the total “unreserved fund balance deficit” increased by \$13.9 million or 13.3 percent for a total unreserved fund balance deficit of \$118.4 million.

### Sette sets off for the Northern Islands

Research vessel Oscar Elton Sette arrived on Saipan yesterday and immediately departed soon after to begin its journey to the Northern Islands to study the underwater riches of the Marianas archipelago. The vessel left Saipan yesterday at 2pm with a total of 20 scientists from Hawaii and Guam, including eight local environmental officers in the CNMI. The trip, called the 2005 Mariana Archipelago Research and Monitoring Program cruise, is the second visit to the islands by Sette scientists. Sette’s chief scientist Robert Schroeder said their first trip to the islands three years ago was very overwhelming due to the richness of the CNMI’s coral reef environment. “The island of Rota is so rich, too,” he said.

September 4, 2006

### Businesses urged to help cut diesel usage

The cost of utility service will be lower if the private sector collectively moves to reduce the Commonwealth’s use of diesel fuel, according to the administration. Speaking at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce’s Marianas Roundtable on Thursday, Lt. Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez urged local businesses to examine alternative energy strategies available to them. Villagomez said that the short-term, low-cost options the private sector could examine are: reducing power demand through conservation, processing biodiesel, installing small private solar power systems, and utilizing micro-hydro power systems.

### ‘MVA chair to spend own money for Dubai’

Marianas Visitors Authority board chairman Jerry Tan will use his own money to attend an airline conference in Dubai this month, according to the agency. MVA executive managing director Perry Tenorio said Friday that it had been agreed among the board members that Tan would shoulder his own expenses for the trip. “There’s the understanding that the chairman will pay for himself. He will be using his personal [money], not the MVA’s,” said Tenorio in a telephone call Friday. He made the clarification following a report quoting Commonwealth Ports Authority consultant Carlos H. Salas saying that the MVA would shoulder the travel cost of the chairman.

September 4, 2007

### Copper wire thieves hit Isley Field water system

Copper wire thieves hit the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.’s major water system in Isley Field over the weekend, causing many areas to have no water supply. CUC spokesperson Pamela Mathis told Saipan Tribune yesterday that thieves stole copper wires from the water system where the utility agency gathers and treats water then releases it through a booster pump system.

### CHC’S hemodialysis unit hangs by a thread

The Commonwealth Health Center has lost one of its two nephrologists, leaving only one specialist in kidney care at the hospital. Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin P. Villagomez confirmed that Dr. Imran Zahid left the island two weeks ago, reportedly to work in the Middle East, where he will be closer to his family. This leaves only Dr. Hormazdiar Dastoor as the single nephrologist at CHC. “We need to have at least one but [it is] preferable to have two all the time,” said Villagomez. However, Dastoor is also set to leave the island next month. Dastoor will be leaving with his family to be closer to their home. The department is now scrambling to find the necessary replacements before Dastoor leaves. “We are now in the process of contacting eight candidates that can potentially come to work here as early as this month,” Villagomez said.



# Island Snapshots



### HOPWOOD TRAINING

Lynette Villagomez, the Public School System's Territories and Freely Associated States Education Grant program coordinator, bottom second from left, and Martha Alicia Trejo, Pearson Education consultant, bottom fifth left, take a group photo with Hopwood Junior High School staff after concluding the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol training at the SandCastle of the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



### CNMI DELEGATION

Members of the Northern Mariana Islands delegation to the 15th Annual Nippon Domannaka Festival perform during the festival, held from Aug. 23-25, 2013, in Japan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



### PROCLAMATION SIGNING

Juan Blanco, an 11-year-old diagnosed with leukemia in May 2007, reads the proclamation Friday that declares September as 2013 Childhood Cancer and Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. The proclamation signing was held at the Office of the Governor's conference room.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



### HISTORY CONFERENCE

CNMI presenter and University of California San Diego doctorate candidate Jessica Jordan explains her research paper titled "Islands Too Beautiful for Their Name" at the 2nd Mariana Islands History Conference held at the University of Guam Fine Arts theatre last Saturday.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA II



CNMI historian Don Farrell asks a presenter a question during one of the sessions at the 2nd Mariana Islands History Conference held at the University of Guam Fine Arts theatre on Saturday.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA II



### ACQUITTED!

Former lawmaker Juan I. Tenorio, in his car with his wife, gives comment to reporters shortly after being acquitted by a jury on Friday afternoon of charges that he sexually abused an 11-year-old girl in May 2010.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Belated happy birthday greetings go out to a great friend, Liezel Cristobal, who celebrated her special day on Aug. 31! A friend is one of the nicest things you can have and one of the best things you can be. Wishing you a birthday filled with light and love. Greetings come from the Gift Shop family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





# Opinion

Hafa Adail

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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### EDITORIAL

## Let others punish Syria

The United States is under no obligation or duty to take the lead in another military intervention, and should not.

Others have the capacity to respond to the suspected chemical attacks in Syria that have roused the international community.

President Obama has been chatting up foreign leaders for the past week, and meeting with administration advisers on how to proceed. The best advice is to step aside and let the French, British and Germans punish the Bashar Assad regime as they see fit.

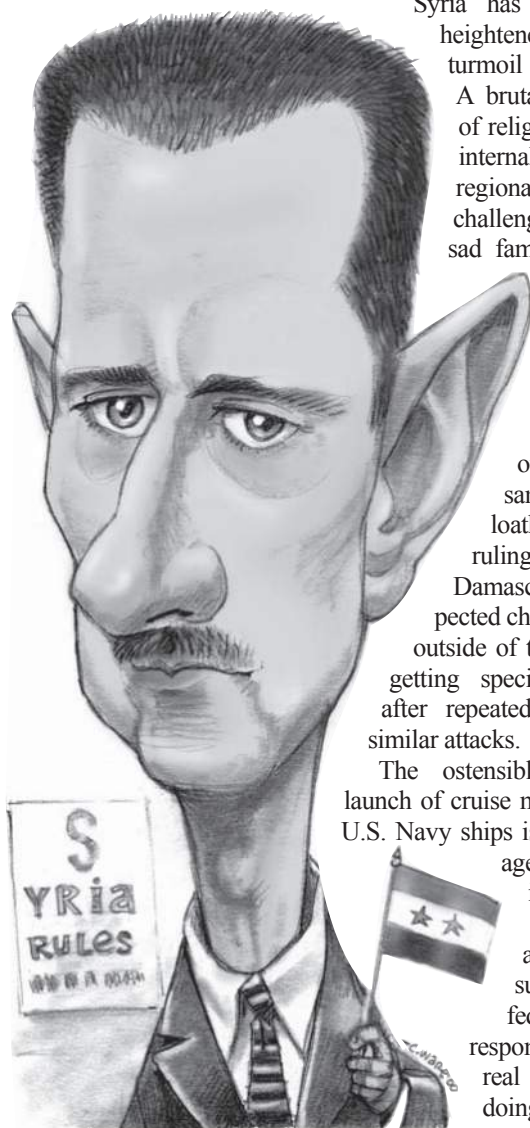
Syria has been in a heightened state of turmoil since 2011.

A brutal taxonomy of religious groups, internal rebels and regional foes are challenging the Assad family dictatorship.

The rebels, coalitions and militias hate one another with the same zeal they loathe the brutal ruling authority in Damascus. A suspected chemical strike outside of the capital is getting special attention after repeated reports of similar attacks.

The ostensibly detached launch of cruise missiles from U.S. Navy ships is no encouragement to get involved.

The U.S. and its presumed confederates in a response have no real clue who is doing what to whom, or who



among the rebel groups ought to prevail and be in charge.

No tidy divisions of authority, credibility or capacity exist. Can the outside forces identify a coalition with broad acceptance within Syria?

The U.S. should take sides? With whom? This innate lack of understanding of the local political, social and religious environment has haunted U.S. intentions and presumptions repeatedly.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, whose country is aligned with Syria's dictatorship, wags a finger at the global community, and says that use of force without a sanction by the U.N. Security Council is a crude violation of international law.

A sanction, if sought, would certainly be vetoed by the Russians.

See SYRIA on Next Page



## The risk of taking on Syria

By ROBIN WRIGHT  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

So the U.S. launches a military strike. Then what?

As the Obama administration and the U.S. military plot military action against Syria, they should be spending just as much time—and arguably more—considering what happens next. Once Washington crosses the threshold of action, there's no retreating from blame for anything that follows, whether through action or inaction. And in the weeks and months to come, dangers will only deepen.

First, quick hits rarely achieve enduring political goals—and often produce more costs or unintended consequences than benefits. I've seen it so often before.

I lived in Lebanon in the fall of 1983 when the Reagan administration ordered the Marine peacekeepers deployed in Beirut to open fire on a Muslim militia. The commander bluntly warned Washington that a strike would have dire consequences for U.S. policy and his troops. "We'll get slaughtered down here," he predicted. Nonetheless, the cruiser Virginia stationed offshore fired 70 deafening rounds on the Lebanese fighters.

It was supposed to be a quick hit. It was supposed to send a warning.

But 34 days later, on Oct. 23, a yellow Mercedes truck carrying the equivalent of 6 tons of explosives drove into the Marine barracks as the peacekeepers slept. In my head, I can still hear the thundering bomb blast. It was the single largest nonnuclear explosion anywhere since World War II. It produced the largest loss of American military life in a single incident since Iwo Jima.

Four months later, the world's mightiest military was ordered to leave Lebanon, its mission incomplete. The embryo of what became Hezbollah, backed by Iran and Syria, had forced the retreat of American, French, Italian and British troops.

This time in Syria, Washington may again consider its action limited and specifically targeted. But Syria and its allies, notably Hezbollah, surely won't. And they can respond in many ways.

The last five presidents have tried limited strikes with specific messages in various crisis spots, many in the Middle East. The track record is pretty sorry for both Republican and Democratic administrations.

Again during the Reagan administration, I reported on the 1986 U.S. airstrikes against Libya for bombing a Berlin disco, a hangout for American troops. Three had been killed and more than 200 injured in the blast, not all Americans. Ten days later, U.S. airstrikes sent a kinetic message to Moammar Gadhafi about the costs of terrorism.

Operation El Dorado Canyon hit Gadhafi's military headquarters and other military targets in Tripoli and Benghazi, although several

bombs missed their targets and hit civilian areas. The strikes did little to end the outrages. Two years later, Libya masterminded the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 that killed 270 people. And Gadhafi remained in power another quarter-century.

In 1998, I covered Operation Desert Fox, when the Clinton administration launched four days of cruise missile and bombing strikes against Iraq. Saddam Hussein's regime had failed to comply with United Nations resolutions and weapons inspectors for a year. The goal was to "degrade" Baghdad's ability to manufacture weapons of mass destruction and to destabilize Hussein's hold on power.

The impact was negligible. Hussein held on for five more years, until the George W. Bush administration launched a ground invasion that cost hundreds of billions of dollars and nearly 4,500 American lives over the next eight years.

And in the end, the United States discovered that Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction anymore.

I also covered Operation Infinite Reach, when the Clinton administration ordered cruise missile strikes on terrorist training camps in Afghanistan and a pharmaceutical plant in Sudan in 1998. It was a response to twin bombings of the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. Twelve Americans had been among the 224 killed.

But a year later, I was in Afghanistan, where Osama bin Laden's camps were still thriving. The U.S. strikes had made him even more popular and powerful on the terrorist circuit. And he skillfully adapted al-Qaida's tactics. In 2000, a suicide dinghy struck the U.S. destroyer Cole docked in Yemen, killing 17 sailors. And then the 9/11 suicide planes, the most successful attack against the United States since Pearl Harbor. Bin Laden may be dead, but the franchises born of his movement are thriving from North Africa to the Persian Gulf.

So the idea of quick hits or short campaigns is often an illusion. The one notable success was the 2011 air campaign that helped oust Gadhafi. But it had the full endorsement of the Arab League, the United Nations and, NATO, which ran the international mission. Thousands of Libyans actually did the fighting, while the Transitional National Council provided a viable alternative government from inside the country. And still Operation Unified Protector lasted 222 days.

In the case of Syria, a few days of strikes against military targets may assuage moral outrage over its heinous use of chemical weapons. But they also carry the danger of widening the war by legitimizing or deepening involvement by other foreign powers, notably Iranian and Russian support for Damascus.

I lived in Beirut during Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon to evict the Palestine Liberation Organization. It achieved the immediate goal, yet Operation Peace for Galilee also backfired: Iran deployed

See RISK on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Major decline of investments

If there's anything a journalist must learn, it's tact and discretion selecting his source of information when chasing down a story. For instance, if there's a brewing controversy at a military base, you talk to a corporal to gather initial information. To talk to his bosses turns into the usual "snowballing" of issues. Don't deal with seasoned bureaucrats.

But when you approach a corporal, the guy who's everybody's punching or trash bag, you get to poke a hole into a seemingly highly impenetrable wall. He gets all sorts of bruises daily and he probably wants to get even too. He spills the beans when quizzed by reporters, provided he's given anonymity.

Like the wellbeing of private industries here, I'd talk to the owners of small businesses to get a feel or gauge the pulse of what's supposedly the most productive sector of the NMI derailed into the complete opposite in recent past.

I relish talking to these folks who work the clock to earn a living. Government employees aren't required to turn in a profit at day's end. Thus, the persistent lack of accountability. That's why you hear them singing *White Christmas* all year long.

The latest setback happened a month ago when the neighborhood tire shop repatriated its last employee. His boss said, "The huge increase in the cost of doing business on the islands makes turning even marginal profits impossible."

They started thinking with their feet and decided it was time to walk out to jet ways "in search of investment-friendly venues." Hell, even the restaurants I'd visit on occasion for Korean, Japanese, or Chinese food have all put up shutters and gone home, too. Puzzling the phenomenon that hasn't met the eyes and ears of politicians.

As private industry contracts, the public sector continues to expand with the arrogance and aura of "business as usual" in woefully unusual times. You could boast of "extras" in the receding fiscal year's budget, but when was the last time you people responsibly checked how much you owe the Retirement Fund? Is it something closer to \$371 million?

The boss says something rosy while employees cringe, fully wary that it isn't so. Is our Achilles heel braving everything but the truth?

**NMC's mess**

The use of WASC's recommendation that NMC implements certification of instructors was too much of a coincidence quickly effected and used to cover the president's decision to get rid of detractors prematurely.

The obvious violation of the Administrative Procedures Act has forced a lawsuit that could very well reverse the president's decision. The justification that it would result in non-transferrable credits earned by students is superfluous. Isn't credit transfer between two accredited institutions a normal transaction?

While I support ascertaining instructor credentials, it should involve a transition period where instructors benefit from a credentialing committee (independent of NMC). As it is, it's up to the Human Resource at NMC to decide on matters it isn't qualified to review and dispose of accordingly.

This is an issue the Board of Regents must quickly resolve. Otherwise, both terminated instructors and students turn victims of a president who has done the same in North Dakota.

**In search of the truth!**

It's difficult understanding the obvious disconnect between politicians and the folks they've promised to guide into the level playing field of economic prosperity.

While we can't teach old dogs new tricks, politicians somehow find a plethora of tricks in their dirty bags and aren't even afraid to use them to stay in office. Even against glaring failure, they still brave peddling the crown jewel of hypocrisy, an insult to the intelligence of an already savvy group of voters. It makes the search for the truth everybody's business!

Even more appalling is the common knowledge that most don't have the credentials and experience for the task at hand. Therefore, they are scarcely the most qualified for the arenas in which they parade, and if we're lucky, about as often as a blue moon do they accomplish anything good for us. They've done nothing of significance in recent past except to check and recheck their non-function-

By **JOHN DELROSARIO***Special to the Saipan Tribune*

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



ing crystal ball.

It should be made legally mandatory that any and all legislators could only serve two terms, after which they return to the real world to feel once more the origin of their political career. It's called reality check. It should grant them the opportunity to veer off the temptation how power corrupts. It's reality check after two terms. Let's stand shoulder to shoulder so we keep you abreast what you've missed while in dreamland.

This time, I'd do a fine-toothed comb of credentials to see their relevancy against the task at hand. If I have to step on toes, sorry, but calling a "spade a spade" is a professional forte. I have no room whatsoever for the disgusting disconnection, complacency, and mediocrity in policymaking that we see today. I want to ensure you've got what it takes to conceptualize and translate the syllabus of your studies into lasting answers to help move the needle of misery into the land of economic prosperity.

When I refer to credentials, I'm definitely not talking about your so-called "previous" experience. It's college level work or syllabus you've taken that have prepared you to do serious policymaking. It should enable an understanding of the concept of "wealth and jobs creation" and prerequisites that leads down the path to economic growth.

In other words, I'm not interested in career politicians or in your re-election as much as the future of these isles 50 to 100 years from now. It's called "planning" the future of posterity. The ad hoc method has done more harm and injustice than meets your nimble mind. Let's get real in forging brighter tomorrows for our children. They deserve nothing less!

nos would greatly diminish. That is what I believe is the real reason why the *Susitna* was trashed. The *Susitna* was another economic opportunity lost in our quest for casinos!

Ambrose M Bennett

*Kagman, Saipan*

## 'Suspicionless tests'

Dear Honorable Rep. Roman Benavente: Before wasting further CNMI taxpayer money on your drug-testing bill for CNMI candidates for public office, please read the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on such matter. Justice Ginsburg wrote the near-unanimous decision for the High Court, which was joined by all but Chief Justice Rehnquist, who dissented.

In her opinion, she wrote: "By requiring candidates for public office to submit to drug testing, Georgia displays its commitment to the struggle against drug abuse. The suspicionless tests, according to respondents, signify that candidates, if elected, will be fit to serve their constituents free from the influence of illegal drugs. But Georgia asserts no evidence of a drug problem among the state's elected officials, those officials typically do not perform high risk, safety sensitive tasks, and the required certification immediately aids no interdiction effort. The need revealed, in short, is symbolic, not 'special,' as that term draws meaning from our case law... where the risk to public safety is substantial and real, blanket suspicionless searches calibrated to the risk may rank as 'reasonable'—for example, searches now routine at airports and at entrances to courts and other official buildings. But where, as in this case, public safety is not genuinely in jeopardy, the Fourth Amendment precludes the suspicionless search, no matter how conveniently arranged."

It will be in the best interest of the CNMI if you consult with the legal counsel at the CNMI House of Representative before dragging your bill forward. In other words, your bill is unconstitutional under the U.S. Constitution and it will not be legally binding, even if it is passed by the CNMI Legislature and signed by the CNMI governor.

Segundo Castro

*Marpo Valley, Tinian***LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

## Inter-island ferry service clarification

While I truly agree with much of Mr. John S. DelRosario Jr.'s column on the inter-island ferry proposal, I humbly and respectfully beg to clarify the wrong information he shared with readers. First and foremost, the *Susitna* ferry was virtually free for the CNMI under a federal grant. The ferry was valued at \$80 million but the CNMI could've gotten it for only \$20 million with a grant. There is also the fact that a \$2-million grant accompanies the sale of the *Susitna* to help pay for "fuel cost and operations" as it does use a lot of fuel. In addition to these two grants there is a third grant in the hundreds of thousands that will actually pay for the "training of our local people" to operate this new technology, as the *Susitna* is fully automated. But there is more: the *Susitna* only needs four feet of water, meaning it can pull right up to the beach and load or unload.

So contrary to the prevailing opinion of the powers-that-be, the *Susitna* was a great deal and it's a shame we didn't want to do the work to get the ferry. The complaints about its fuel use were not based on the fact we would have \$2 million to subsidize fuel cost. The complaints about it being an ice breaker misled people as 80 percent of the icebreaking equipment would have been removed be-

fore we even got the ferry and the remaining 20 percent was to our advantage as it would reinforce the strength of the hull. There was also *no need* for a roll-on/roll-off terminal or dock—just a launching dock on the beach to maintain the island persona. Finally, the CNMI could have used the ferry and operated it with the \$2 million grant for gas and did what we wanted to do with the ferry after five years, as most of the cost was already funded and we could even sell it as junk that's worth in the millions!

It should also be noted that Ambrose M. Bennett gave birth to this recent idea for an interisland ferry service and people in the news media and in our Legislature can verify this fact. There would be no ferry feasibility study if not for the *Susitna* and me! I'm sharing this because my mother taught me at an early age that if I don't toot my own horn, no one is going to do it for me. So if the interisland ferry service does become a reality, you can thank me for being diligent and persistent in making sure our government did the work to create a ferry service. The only real problem with the *Susitna* was that it was viewed as a countermeasure to stop the casino push because with a ferry taking people to Tinian again, the desire for Saipan casino-

So, as the U.S. and its allies take on Syria, they need to ensure that the costs do not ultimately outweigh the benefits, and that another military mission doesn't backfire.

*Robin Wright, the author of Rock the Casbah: Rage and Rebellion Across the Islamic World, is a distinguished scholar at the U.S. Institute of Peace and the Woodrow Wilson Center. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.*

this rebellion for two years, wants to punish Syria, then let them organize and act.

The United States can mull its recent history in the Middle East and contemplate an exit from Afghanistan. Demonstrate the restraint of lessons learned.

**RISK**

From Page 10

Revolutionary Guards to Lebanon and created Hezbollah, which ultimately drove out both Israeli troops and American peacekeepers. It was Israel's first retreat—made voluntarily due to inexorable costs—in the long Arab-Israeli dispute.

**SYRIA**

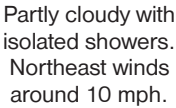
From Page 10

Snipers were shooting Monday at U.N. officials looking in a town near Damascus for evidence of chemical weapons.

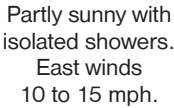
If the international community, which has been a spectator of



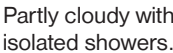
# The Weather

**TODAY**

▲ 88° ▼ 76°

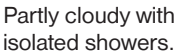
**THURSDAY**

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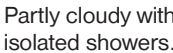
**FRIDAY**

▲ 88° ▼ 76°

## SATURDAY



▲ 88° ▼ 76°

**SUNDAY**

▲ 88° ▼ 76°

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲88	▼79
Palau	Showers	▲84	▼74
Yap	Showers	▲89	▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲87	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼74
Kosrae	Showers	▲86	▼74
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼80

Auckland	Showers	▲57	▼46
Beijing	Showers	▲77	▼61
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲86	▼80
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼60
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼71
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Melbourne	Showers	▲65	▼49
Miami	Thundershowers	▲90	▼80
New York	Sunny	▲83	▼64
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Paris	Sunny	▲86	▼60
Pusan	Windy	▲82	▼73
Rome	Sunny	▲87	▼67
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼58
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼58
Seoul	Cloudy	▲82	▼66
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲85	▼66

Saipan Harbor			
1:56 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
7:18 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
2:11 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
8:33 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Today	6:05 AM	6:27 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:26 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:26 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:25 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM

Today	4:45 AM	5:26 PM
Thursday	5:34 AM	6:06 PM
Friday	6:25 AM	6:47 PM
Saturday	7:16 AM	7:28 PM
Sunday	8:08 AM	8:12 PM

Western North Pacific between equator and 25°N from 130°E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough stretches eastward from a weak circulation centered northwest of Chuuk near 9N139E through another circulation located north of Majuro near 8N171E to beyond the date line at 9N. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring over the Marshall Islands between 10N and 4N from 167E to 179E. Similar weather is found northwest of Chuuk between 12N and 7N from 155E to 162E. A weak circulation is centered well northwest of the Marianas near 21N135E. Clusters of isolated thunderstorms are found southeast of Okinawa within 90 miles of a line from 25N134E to 21N133E to 17N134E. An upper-level trough extends northeastward from a low centered northwest of Yap near 11N134E to beyond 25N145E. Convergent low-level winds are interacting with the upper-level trough to produce isolated thunderstorms between 24N and 14N from 140E to 149E. This area includes the Marianas north of Saipan. A surface trough curves southwestward from 25N175E to 21N158E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found north of Wake Island between 25N and 22N from 158E to 178E. A weak trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers east of the Marianas between 18N and 13N from 158E to 164E.

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- **ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**  
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- **BUSINESS**  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- **SAMUT SARI**  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRAVELOGUE**  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

## ■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

**CAMPUS BULLETIN**

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
OZ1077	4:50am	7:10am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
DL583	5:50am	8:30am	2, 5, 6
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ612	3:40am	7:20am	Daily
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	Daily
OZ1087	10:00pm	2:25am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
DL582	8:30pm	1:00am+1	1, 4, 5
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ611	9:10pm	2:40am+1	Daily
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR101/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
RE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
RE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
RE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Saipan-Rota							
RE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
RE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
RE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
RE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
RE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
RE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
RE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
RE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
RE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



# Business

## Microsoft buying Nokia's devices and services unit

**REDMOND, Wash. (AP)**—Microsoft Corp. is buying Nokia Corp.'s devices and services business, and getting access to the company's patents, for a total of 5.44 billion euros (\$7.2 billion) in an effort to expand its share of the smartphone market, the companies announced late Monday.

Microsoft will pay 3.79 billion euros (\$5 billion) for the Nokia unit that makes mobile

phones, including its line of Lumia smartphones that run Windows Phone software.

Microsoft is also paying 1.65 billion euros (\$2.2 billion) for a 10-year license to use Nokia's patents, with the option to extend it indefinitely.

"We are very excited about the proposal to bring the best mobile device efforts of Microsoft and Nokia together," Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer

said in a memo to employees. "We are receiving incredible talent, technology and IP (intellectual property)."

Microsoft said it is acquiring Nokia's Asha brand of low to mid-level smartphones and will license the Nokia brand for current Nokia mobile products.

"This element provides Mi-

crosoft with the opportunity to extend its service offerings to a far wider group around the world while allowing Nokia's mobile phones to serve as an on-ramp to Windows Phone," the companies said in a joint statement.

Redmond, Wash.-based Microsoft said it will draw from its overseas cash resources to

fund the transaction. When the deal closes in early 2014, about 32,000 Nokia employees will transfer to Microsoft, the companies said.

Nokia, based in Espoo, Finland, said Stephen Elop will step aside as president and CEO to become executive vice president of Nokia devices and services. Chairman Risto Si-

ilasmaa will stay in his current role and assume the duties of interim CEO.

Elop is expected to join Microsoft at the close of the transaction, along with several Nokia vice presidents.

Nokia plans to hold a news conference in Finland on Tuesday morning to discuss the deal.

## Verizon reclaims US wireless stake for \$130B

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Verizon will own its wireless business outright after agreeing Monday to pay \$130 billion for the 45 percent stake in Verizon Wireless owned by British cellphone carrier Vodafone.

The buyout, the second-largest acquisition deal on record, would give Vodafone PLC additional cash to pursue its expansion ambitions in Europe. Those ambitions include its push to buy up other cellphone providers and to expand into the lucrative world of mobile services.

The deal would give Verizon Communications Inc. an opportunity to boost its quarterly earnings, as it would no longer have to share a portion of proceeds from the nation's No. 1 wireless carrier with Vodafone. It expects its earnings per share

will rise by 10 percent once the deal closes.

But the deal isn't expected to have much of an effect on Verizon consumers or on the company's operations. Vodafone had little influence on Verizon Wireless' day-to-day operations, and the two companies have kept out of each other's territory.

The deal still requires approval by regulators and shareholders of both companies. It is expected to close in the first quarter of 2014.

Under terms of the deal, Verizon will pay \$58.9 million in cash and \$60.2 billion in stock. It will also issue \$5 billion in senior notes payable to Vodafone and sell its 23.1 percent minority stake in Vodafone Omnitel NV to Vodafone for \$3.5 billion. The remaining \$2.5 billion will

be paid in other ways.

Vodafone said its shareholders would get \$84 billion of the deal's net proceeds—including the Verizon shares and \$23.9 billion in cash.

Vodafone CEO Vittorio Colao said the sale will mean a "very substantial return to shareholders and to the investments relied upon by savers and pensioners."

"This transaction has the beauty that it allows both to reward shareholders for their support and strengthen the company for future long-term rewards to shareholders," he said.

The Verizon-Vodafone partnership started in 2000, when what was then Bell Atlantic combined its East Coast wireless network with Vodafone's operations on the West Coast. Vodafone had entered the U.S.

market a year earlier by outbidding Bell Atlantic to buy AirTouch Communications Inc. of San Francisco.

While Vodafone and Verizon have prospered by building the infrastructure to make cellphone calls, much of the growth in today's market is in providing services that can be used on smartphones over high-speed wireless connections, said Victor Basta, managing director at Magister Advisors.

It's as if the tarmac of the highway has been laid, and the real action is in the billboards on the side of the road.

"While Vodafone has been pursuing its current strategy, operators have become locked in a galactic fight with online brands such as Google, Facebook, and eBay for mindshare," Basta said. "For these online leaders, winning on the mobile device is not a luxury, it is essential to their own success. The mobile screen is now the main screen in most Western markets."

The windfall from the buyout will give Vodafone, already one of the world's largest cellphone companies, substantial funds to buy other providers—or pay down its debt. Last year, Vodafone Group PLC spent \$1.6 billion in buying up UK telecoms group Cable & Wireless Worldwide and is pushing ahead with a \$10.2 billion takeover bid for Germany's biggest cable operator, Kabel Deutschland.

The Kabel deal will help Vodafone expand its foothold in Europe and gain 32.4 million mobile, 5 million broadband and 7.6 million direct TV customers in Germany. It has 19.2 million mobile customers in the UK, and it has been under intense competition.

### YOUR OFFICE COACH

By **MARIE G. MCINTYRE**  
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



## It's manager's place to define job roles

**QUESTION:** I have found myself in a strange situation at work. After receiving a promotion, I discovered that many of the duties in my new job description were already being performed by "Paul," an older employee who has been here for a long time. Paul is so involved with my responsibilities that I'm beginning to feel unnecessary.

For example, my job description states that I am to recruit, hire, and supervise our student interns. But when I tried to give projects to the students, Paul insisted that he is supposed to approve their assignments and monitor their performance. This makes absolutely no sense.

When I tried to reclaim some of my territory, Paul immediately became angry and uncooperative. Our supervisor seems to understand my frustration, but so far she has done nothing to solve the problem. How can I get Paul to back off and stop doing my work?

**ANSWER:** Before getting sucked into an unwise territorial dispute, take a moment to consider Paul's perspective. If he has performed these duties for many years, you may seem like an interloper who is trying to steal his job. So you need to understand that the blame for this confusion lies not with Paul, but with management.

When roles are poorly defined, conflicts almost always arise. Before your promotion, your supervisor should have anticipated this problem and taken steps to differentiate your position from Paul's. Her failure to do so has created a predictable tug-of-war which could easily have been avoided.

Since your boss has continued to abdicate her leadership role, you may have to take the initiative to resolve this issue. Start by listing both your responsibilities and Paul's, then review this summary with your supervisor and identify areas of overlap. Instead of lobbying to "reclaim your territory," ask if she will invite Paul to collaborate with you on creating two distinct job descriptions.

If this process succeeds, you may still not have precisely the job you want, but you will at least have a role that everyone understands. After all, if you're confused about who does what, just think how those poor interns must feel.

**Q:** Our company recently merged with a larger business, so I know that some departments will eventually be combined and positions will be eliminated. I had been planning to ask my boss about a promotion, but with all the uncertainty created by the merger, I'm afraid this might not be a good idea. What do you think?

**A:** If your primary objective is to survive the merger, then you want to be in the position which will be most essential to the combined company. Depending on the specific circumstances, that could be either the higher-level or lower-level job.

If predicting the better choice is difficult, consider seeking advice from your human resources manager. You should keep in mind, however, that no one has the power to foretell exactly what may happen in the wake of a merger.



In this Monday, July 28, 2008, file photo, Eric Roden speaks on his cell phone as he walks past a Verizon store in Portland, Ore.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Oil falls below \$107 as Syria tension eases

The price of oil fell below \$107 a barrel Monday as the likelihood of an imminent U.S. attack against Syria diminished. By early afternoon in Europe, benchmark crude for October delivery was down 82 cents to \$106.83 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Friday, the contract fell \$1.15 to close at

\$107.65. Trading volumes were limited Monday as floor trading on the Nymex was closed because of Labor Day. As a result, the benchmark contract was volatile, swinging within a wide range of more than \$3, between \$104.21 and \$107.31. While Syria is not a major oil producer, it straddles a region that is. (AP)

#### US probes Nissan

#### Pathfinder fluid leak

**NEW YORK (AP)**—U.S. auto safety regulators are investigating complaints that transmission cooler lines can leak fluid in some 2013 Nissan Pathfinders and Infiniti JX models, leading to a sudden loss of transmission power. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says it has received reports of problems from five owners of Pathfinders. No injuries have

been reported. The probe covers an estimated 110,000 cars. The NHTSA has begun an evaluation to assess the size and safety-related consequences of the issue. Such probes can often lead to recalls. Nissan said it has received a request for information from the NHTSA stemming from the reports of leaks. Spokesman Steve Yaeger said the company is working with the agency to address questions.



# Nation

## Obama tries persuading the skeptical on Syria

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama worked on Monday to persuade skeptical lawmakers to endorse a U.S. military intervention in civil war-ravaged Syria, winning conditional support from two leading Senate foreign policy hawks even as he encountered resistance from members of his own party after two days of a determined push to sell the plan.

Sens. John McCain of Arizona and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina said Obama still needs to make a strong case for attacking the regime of President Bashar Assad, but they toned down past criticism that the president's plan was too

weak to change the course of the fighting in Syria in favor of the opposition.

"We have to make it clear that a vote against this would be catastrophic in its consequences," now and in future international crises, McCain told reporters outside the White House following an hour-long private meeting that he and Graham had with Obama and White House national security adviser Susan Rice.

But the outcome of any vote remained in doubt amid continued skepticism in a war-weary Congress. Several Democrats in a conference call with administration officials pushed back against military action,

questioning both the intelligence about a chemical attack last month outside Damascus and the value of an intervention to United States interests, according to aides on the call. Others demanded narrower authorization than that requested by the administration.

"The White House has put forward a proposed bill authorizing the use of force that, as drafted, is far too broad and open ended, and could be used to justify everything from a limited cruise missile strike to a no fly zone and the introduction of American ground troops," said

Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., a member of the House intelligence committee.

Obama has insisted that he will not send troops into Syria and that he was considering a military operation that was limited in duration and scope. The White House said Monday that Obama was open to working with Congress to make changes to the language of the resolution.

In a post on his website, Democratic Rep. Rick Nolan of Minnesota reflected a view shared by others: "I want you to know that I am vehemently

opposed to a military strike that would clearly be an act of war against Syria, especially under such tragic yet confusing circumstances as to who is responsible for the use of chemical weapons."

After changing course and deciding to seek congressional approval for military action, Obama is confronted with one of his most difficult foreign policy tests and faces a Congress divided over an unavoidably tough vote-of-conscience on overseas conflict rather than the more customary partisan fights over domestic policy.

"My impression is that a lot of people are up for grabs," McCain said.

Following months of rejecting direct intervention in Syria, Obama and his aides now want to strike at the Assad regime in response to a reported chemical attack that the Obama administration says was carried out by Assad's military. The administration says more than 1,400 people were killed, including more than 400 children.

Obama was trying to find a middle ground that would attract a majority in the House and the Senate—a difficult task complicated further because Obama is leaving for a three-day trip to Europe Tuesday night, visiting Stockholm, Sweden, and then attending an economic summit in St. Petersburg, Russia.



Obama

## Nyad 1st to swim to Florida from Cuba without cage



In this photo provided by the Florida Keys News Bureau Diana Nyad emerges from the Atlantic Ocean after completing a 111-mile swim from Cuba to Key West, Fla.

KEY WEST, Fla. (AP)—Looking dazed and sunburned, U.S. endurance swimmer Diana Nyad walked ashore Monday, becoming the first person to swim from Cuba to Florida without the help of a shark cage.

The 64-year-old Nyad swam up to the beach just before 2 p.m. EDT, about 53 hours after starting her journey from Havana on Saturday. As she approached, spectators waded into waist-high water and surrounded her, taking pictures and cheering her on.

"I have three messages. One is, we should never, ever give up. Two is, you're never too old to chase your dream. Three is, it looks like a solitary sport, but it is a team," she said on the beach.

"I have to say, I'm a little bit out of it right now," Nyad said. She gestured toward her swollen lips, and simply said "seawater."

Her team said she had been slurring her words while out in the water. She was placed on a stretcher on the beach and received an IV before she was taken by ambulance to a hospital. But her doctor later declared her essentially healthy and expected her to recover quickly from dehydration, swelling and sunburn.

"I just wanted to get out of the sun," she said after coming ashore on a scorching, sunny day amid calm seas.

It was Nyad's fifth attempt and what she had said would be her last try to complete the approximately 110-mile swim. She tried three times in 2011 and 2012. Her first attempt was in 1978.

"It's historic, marvelous," said Jose Miguel Diaz Eserich, the Hemingway Marina commodore who helped organize the Cuba side of Nyad's multiple attempts.

"I always thought she could do it given her internal energy, her mental and physical strength, her will of iron," said Diaz Eserich, whom Nyad has called a longtime friend.

"More than the athletic feat,

she wants to send a message of peace, love, friendship and happiness ... between the people of the United States and Cuba," he added.

President Barack Obama was among a flurry of public officials and celebrities who tweeted congratulations. The president's tweet read: "Never give up on your dreams." Others who tweeted included Ryan Seacrest, who wrote "We should never ever give up ... you never are too old to chase your dreams."

Nyad's previous try was cut short amid boat trouble, storms, unfavorable currents and jellyfish stings that left her face puffy and swollen.

This time, she wore a full bodysuit, gloves, booties and a mask at night, when jellyfish rise to the surface. The new silicone mask caused bruises inside her mouth, making it difficult for her to speak, she told her team as she neared land.

Doctors traveling with Nyad had been worried about her slurred speech and her breathing, but didn't intervene, according to Nyad's website.

"She was incredible to watch the whole way through," said one of her doctors, Derek Covington, speaking with The Associated Press afterward.

Covington said Nyad was given IV fluids on her arrival to combat dehydration and was resting and being checked out at a medical center as a precaution.

Although she had some swelling of the lips, tongue and the airway near the mouth, Nyad wouldn't need a long recovery, the doctor said, calling her stable and "very healthy."

Meanwhile, her website declared her team was in a mood to celebrate, with the words "Party Time."

Nyad jumped from the seawall of the Hemingway Marina into the warm waters off Havana Saturday morning to begin swimming. She paused occasionally for nourishment, but never left the water.

## Drug agents plumb vast database of call records

SEATTLE (AP)—For at least six years, federal drug and other agents have had near-immediate access to billions of phone call records dating back decades in a collaboration with AT&T that officials have taken pains to keep secret, newly released documents show.

The program, previously reported by ABC News and The New York Times, is called the Hemisphere Project. It's paid for by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and the Office of National Drug Control Policy, and it allows investigators armed with subpoenas to quickly mine the company's vast database to help track

down drug traffickers or other suspects who switch cellphones to avoid detection.

The details of the Hemisphere Project come amid a national debate about the federal government's access to phone records, particularly the bulk collection of phone records for national security purposes. Hemisphere, however, takes a different approach from that of the National Security Agency, which maintains a database of call records handed over by phone companies as authorized by the USA Patriot Act.

"Subpoenaing drug dealers' phone records is a bread-and-

butter tactic in the course of criminal investigations," Justice Department spokesman Brian Fallon said in an email. "The records are maintained at all times by the phone company, not the government. This program simply streamlines the process of serving the subpoena to the phone company so law enforcement can quickly keep up with drug dealers when they switch phone numbers to try to avoid detection."

The Associated Press independently obtained a series of slides detailing Hemisphere. They show the database includes not just records of AT&T customers, but of any

call that passes through an AT&T switch.

The federal government pays the salaries of four AT&T employees who work in three federal anti-drug offices around the country to expedite subpoena requests, an Obama administration official told the AP on Monday. The official spoke on the condition of anonymity because he or she was not authorized to discuss the program, and said that two of the AT&T employees are based at the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area office in Atlanta, one at the HIDTA office in Houston, and one at the office in Los Angeles.



# Asia

## Study finds dire work conditions on Thai trawlers

**BANGKOK** (AP)—Some workers are forced onto Thai fishing boats by their families, others by unscrupulous employment brokers. Nearly half the workers make less than \$160 a month in exchange for back-breaking labor. Some might not see any money at all.

And their employers get away

with it, because Thailand—the world's No. 3 seafood exporter after China and Norway—either lacks comprehensive laws to protect poor migrants from exploitation or fails to enforce existing laws, such as those prohibiting the employment of children younger than 15 in fishing.

Researchers from the Inter-

national Labor Organization and the Asian Research Center on Migration at Chulalongkorn University questioned nearly 600 workers in four provinces along Thailand's coasts for a study, released Monday, on the state of the country's fishing industry. They found conditions on trawlers so bad that Thais,

who have better opportunities elsewhere, are rarely found working on one.

More than 90 percent of the workers interviewed came from Myanmar or Cambodia, where poverty is widespread and jobs scarce. Many workers were smuggled into Thailand, arriving without valid work papers that might grant them legal protection. A small number of workers were younger than 15, separated from their parents.

While most workers said they accepted the job willingly, virtually none was given a written contract that spelled

out the conditions of the job or how regularly they would be paid. Nearly 40 percent of the workers said "deductions" were taken from their pay but they didn't know why.

Others said they were lied to about the true nature of the job until it was too late to escape. Physical violence, nonpayment of wages, and the withholding of food were among punishments meted out to workers who did not submit.

In one case, a Laotian man who traveled to Bangkok in search of work was recruited to work on a vessel. He was told

the salary was good and that he would return to shore every 15 days. When he found out that he would have to work for two years before returning to shore, he refused to get on the boat and was severely beaten by the captain. After five months, the ship docked and he managed to escape.

Max Tunon of the ILO's TRI-ANGLE project, which aims to prevent exploitation of migrant workers in the Mekong region, said the organization is urging Thailand adopt standards and protection measures that conform to ILO standards.

## India fury over gang rapes sign of changing nation

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—A series of recent high-profile gang rape cases in India has ignited a debate: Are such crimes on the rise, or is it simply that more attention is being paid to a problem long hidden within families and villages? The answer, experts say, is both.

Modernization is fueling a crisis of sexual assault in India, with increasingly independent women now working in factories and offices and stepping beyond the subservient roles to which they had traditionally been relegated. They are also more likely than their mothers and grandmothers were to report rapes, and more likely to encounter male strangers in public.

"We never used to see so many cases of gang rape, and so many involving groups of young, unemployed men," said Supreme Court lawyer Kirti Singh, who specializes in women's issues.

While there are no reliable statistics on gang rapes, experts say the trend, along with the growing sense of insecurity it has brought for women, led to recent outbursts of public anger over the long-ignored epidemic of violence against women.

The silence broke in December, when a New Delhi student was gang-raped on a bus in a particularly vicious attack from which she died two weeks later. A juvenile court on Saturday handed down the first conviction in the case, sending a teenager to a reform home for three years for rape and murder.

The sentence, the maximum a juvenile can face, was widely denounced as too lenient, and the girl's parents vowed to appeal. The other suspects in the case are being tried as adults and could face execution if convicted.

While attacks on women occur constantly across India, often within the home, the brutality and public nature of the New Delhi case left many shocked and shamed. Thousands took to the streets in the capital to express their outrage.

The government, pledging to crack down, created fast-track courts for rape cases, doubled prison terms for rape and criminalized voyeurism, stalking, acid attacks and the trafficking of women.

The Tourism Ministry launched a nationwide "I Respect Women" campaign

after a Swiss bicyclist was gang-raped in March in central India and an American woman was gang-raped two months later in the northern resort town of Manali.

Yet another high-profile gang rape last month, against a photojournalist on assignment in Mumbai, renewed public fury and sent the media into 24-7 coverage marked by daily front page headlines and talk shows debating how to make India safe for women.

"There is very clearly a class dimension" that is compounding the sudden outrage, women's rights lawyer Flavia Agnes said.

All five of the accused in the Mumbai attack had little to no education, and three had previously been arrested for theft, Mumbai police said. They lived in the slums near the abandoned textile mill where the woman was raped.

In both the Mumbai and the Delhi cases, "middle-class people identified with these young girls, aspiring professionals, trying to make their mark in a competitive world," said Sudha Sundararaman, an activist with the All India Democratic Women's Association.



### SWARM OF TORNADOES

Utility poles fall over a road after a tornado in Koshigaya city, Saitama Prefecture, north of Tokyo, Monday, Sept. 2, 2013. Tornadoes tore through eastern Japan on Monday, injuring dozens of people, at least one seriously, and destroying some buildings. Police in Saitama prefecture said 63 people were reported injured. Kyodo News reported that the tornadoes toppled power lines, blew roofs off homes and sent debris flying, smashing windows at an elementary school. Six homes were totally destroyed in Saitama, while 83 were partially damaged, police said. Tornadoes also struck other nearby areas, such as Chiba prefecture.

AP

## Japan to fund leak control measures at nuke plant

**TOKYO** (AP)—Japan will fund some of the costly, long-term projects to control the worrisome and growing leaks of contaminated water at the crippled Fukushima nuclear plant.

Public funding is part of several measures the government adopted Tuesday. Most were already announced but they are widely seen as a safety appeal before the International Olympic Committee votes on which city will host the 2020 Olympics. Tokyo is a front-runner.

The operator of the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant says hundreds of tons of radioactive underground water have been leaking into the sea daily since early in the crisis, caused by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Several leaks from storage tanks in recent weeks have added to concerns that the plant is unable to manage the radioactive water.

On Monday, Japan's top nuclear regulator raised safety concerns about the hastily built storage tanks and their foundations after signs of new leaks.

One was found over the weekend in a connecting pipe, and plant operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co., said it suspects three storage tanks where elevated radioactivity was detected also have had leaks.

Nuclear Regulation Authority Chairman Shunichi Tanaka told a news conference that the small leak and possible other leaks have added to concerns about the plant's stability.

They follow a major leak two weeks ago. TEPCO reported a loss of 300 tons of highly radioactive water from a steel tank on Aug. 19, saying most of it is believed to have seeped underground but some might have escaped into the sea. The company has yet to determine the cause or exactly where the water went.

More than 300 tanks there are of a similar type. About 1,000 tanks hold 330,000 tons of contaminated water at the plant, and the amount grows by 400 tons daily. The water is part of the makeshift system to

keep the radioactive material at the plant stable.

Tanaka said he believed the discoveries of the subsequent leak and signs of possible additional leaks were the result of closer inspections after the large leak two weeks ago. That leak was the worst from a tank at the plant, which was badly damaged by a massive March 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

The investigation into the tanks has revealed sloppy record keeping and tank management by TEPCO. The company has acknowledged that it used to assign only two workers to visually inspect all 1,000 tanks in about two hours until the leak, and none of the tanks had water gauges. TEPCO has increased the patrol staff to nearly 60 and is adding other early detection measures.

TEPCO also said it overlooked several signs of leaks—increases of radioactivity near the tanks and higher exposure levels for workers—for more than a month.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Rodman heads to NKorea to visit his 'friend' Kim

**BEIJING** (AP)—Basketball star Dennis Rodman is heading to North Korea for the second time this year for what he says is a friendly visit to his friend, the communist nation's leader, Kim Jong Un. But he is playing down speculation his trip is aimed at freeing jailed American missionary Kenneth Bae—saying there's been "nothing promised." Rodman spoke briefly to reporters Tuesday while transiting at Beijing's airport on his way to Pyongyang. "I'm going to North Korea to meet my friend, Kim," he said. "It's a friendly gesture." Rodman first met Kim—a basketball fan—during a visit in February to promote the sport and make a film. U.S. officials frowned on the trip for giving Kim a propaganda boost, but Rodman suggested "basketball diplomacy" could warm relations.

#### Australian prime minister defends gay marriage

**CANBERRA, Australia** (AP)—Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has mounted a spirited defense of his support for gay marriage only days out from Australian elections. Rudd, a Roman Catholic who regularly attends church, announced in May that he had reconsidered his opposition to same-sex marriage. He promised a bill to create gay marriage in Australia would be voted on in Parliament

within 100 days if his center-left Labor Party wins elections on Saturday. Rudd was questioned about his new stance at a nationally broadcast forum in his hometown of Brisbane late Monday by New Hope Church Pastor Matt Prater. Pratt quoted from the Bible a definition of marriage as a man leaving his father and mother to be united to his wife. Rudd replied "the Bible also says that slavery is a natural condition."

#### China fires official in oil giant corruption probe

**BEIJING** (AP)—Chinese state media say the Communist Party has fired the head of a body that oversees major state-owned companies and who is being investigated for corruption likely linked to the country's biggest oil company. Xinhua News Agency said Tuesday the party has dismissed Jiang Jiemin from his positions as director and deputy party chief of the Cabinet's commission that runs state companies. Jiang formerly was chairman of the state-run China National Petroleum Corp., which has been the target of a sweeping graft investigation that also has netted four top executives in recent days. News reports also say China's top leaders have taken the unusual step of endorsing a corruption investigation into Zhou Yongkang, a former security czar and CNPC general manager.



## World

## Assad: Risk of regional war if West strikes Syria

**PARIS (AP)**—France released an intelligence report on Monday alleging chemical weapons use by Syria's regime that dovetailed with similar U.S. claims, as President Bashar Assad warned that any military strike against his country would spark an uncontrollable regional war and spread "chaos and extremism."

The verbal crossfire, including a rejection of the Western allegations by longtime Syrian ally Russia, was part of frenzied efforts on both sides to court international public opinion after President Barack Obama said he would seek authorization from Congress before launching any military action against Assad's regime.

In an interview with French newspaper *Le Figaro*, Assad was quoted as saying that Syria has challenged the U.S. and France to provide proof to support their allegations, but that their leaders "have been incapable of doing that, including before their own peoples."

"If the Americans, the French or the British had a shred of proof, they would have shown it beginning on the first day," he said, deriding Obama as "weak" and having buckled to U.S. domestic political pressure.

"We believe that a strong man is one who prevents war, not one who inflames it," Assad said.

French President Francois Hollande and Obama have been the two world leaders



Syrian refugees arrive at the Turkish Cilvegözü gate border, Monday, Sept. 2, 2013.

most vocally calling for action against Assad's regime, accusing it of carrying out a deadly chemical attack against rebel-held suburbs of Damascus on Aug. 21.

The U.S. said it has proof that the Assad regime is behind attacks that Washington claims killed at least 1,429 people, including more than 400 children. Those numbers are significantly higher than the death toll of 355 provided by the aid group Doctors Without Borders.

It has marked an intolerable escalation in a two-year civil war in Syria that has left some 100,000 people dead.

The Syrian government denies the allegations, and blames opposition fighters. In the *Figaro* interview, Assad questioned whether an attack took place at all and refused to say whether his forces have chemical weapons, as is widely believed.

If the U.S. and France strike, "Everyone will lose control of the situation ... Chaos and ex-

tremism will spread. The risk of a regional war exists," he added.

To back up its case, the French government published a nine-page intelligence synopsis Monday that concluded Assad's regime had launched an attack on Aug. 21 involving a "massive use of chemical agents," and could carry out similar strikes in the future.

In all, though, the French report provided little new concrete evidence beyond what U.S. officials provided over

the weekend in Washington. Along with it, the French Defense Ministry posted on its Web site six clips of amateur video showing victims, some of which has already been widely available online and in the international media.

In the *Figaro* interview, Assad said "all the accusations are based on allegations of the terrorists and on arbitrary videos posted on the Internet."

The French report made no specific reference to the agencies involved or how the intelligence was collected about the attack, aside from referring to videos of the injured or killed, doctors' accounts, and "independent evaluations" such as one from Paris-based humanitarian aid group Doctors Without Borders three

days after the attack.

A French government official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak about the matter because of its sensitivity, said the analysis was written by the spy agency DGSE and the military intelligence unit, DRM, and was based on satellite imagery, video images, and on-the-ground sources—plus samples collected from the alleged chemical attacks in April.

The assessment said it was "very unlikely" that Syria's opposition had falsified images of suffering children that turned up online. It also said intelligence indicated the opposition "does not have the means to conduct such a large attack with chemical agents."

## US-Brazil tensions rise after new NSA spy report

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)**—The Brazilian government condemned a U.S. spy program that reportedly targeted the nation's leader, labeled it an "unacceptable invasion" of sovereignty and called Monday for international regulations to protect citizens and governments alike from cyber espionage.

In a sign that fallout over the spy program is spreading, the newspaper *Folha de S.Paulo* reported that President Dilma Rousseff is considering canceling her October trip to the U.S., where she has been scheduled to be honored with a state dinner. *Folha* cited unidentified Rousseff aides. The president's office declined to comment.

The Foreign Ministry called in U.S. Ambassador Thomas Shannon and told him Brazil expects the White House to provide a prompt written explanation over the espionage allegations. The action came after a report aired Sunday night on Globo TV citing 2012 documents from NSA leaker Edward Snowden that indicated the U.S. intercepted Rousseff's emails and telephone calls, along with those of Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto, whose communications were being monitored even before he was elected as president in July 2012.

Mexico's government said it had expressed its concerns to the U.S. ambassador and directly to the U.S. administration.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Luiz Alberto Figueiredo said, "We're going to talk with our partners, including developed

and developing nations, to evaluate how they protect themselves and to see what joint measures could be taken in the face of this grave situation."

He added that "there has to be international regulations that prohibit citizens and governments alike from being exposed to interceptions, violations of privacy and cyberattacks."

Justice Minister Eduardo Cardozo said at a joint news conference with Figueiredo that "from our point of view,

this represents an unacceptable violation of Brazilian sovereignty."

"This type of practice is incompatible with the confidence necessary for a strategic partnership between

two nations," Cardozo said.

Earlier, Sen. Ricardo Ferraço, head of the Brazilian Senate's foreign relations committee, said lawmakers already had decided to formally investigate the U.S. program's focus on Brazil because of earlier revelations that the country was a top target of the NSA spying in the region. He said the probe would likely start this week.

"I feel a mixture of amazement and indignation. It seems like there are no limits. When the phone of the president of the republic is monitored, it's hard to imagine what else might be happening," Ferraço told reporters in Brasilia. "It's unacceptable that in a country like ours, where there is absolutely no climate of terrorism, that there is this type of spying."



Rousseff

## Iraq promises probe into Iranian exile killings

**BAGHDAD (AP)**—Iraq's prime minister ordered an investigation Monday into the slaying of half of the roughly 100 remaining residents at an Iranian dissident camp north of Baghdad, where a U.N. team got its first look at the aftermath of the large-scale bloodshed.

The promised probe will do little to appease backers of the more than 3,000 exiles left inside Iraq who believe they remain targets in a country whose government wants them gone.

Supporters of the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq members living at Camp Ashraf insist that the Saddam Hussein-era facility came under attack Sunday from Iraqi forces. Iraqi officials have denied involvement, with some suggesting there was an internal dispute at the camp.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's office said a special committee is being set up to investigate what happened at the camp, located about 95 kilometers (60 miles) northeast of the Iraqi capital.

In a statement, it said the Iraqi government is committed to ensuring the safety of people living within its borders. But the



In this photo released by the National Council of Resistance of Iran, Camp Ashraf residents lie on the ground at Ashraf clinic at Camp Ashraf, a Saddam Hussein-era community northeast of Baghdad, Iraq, Sunday, Sept. 1, 2013.

terse remarks also made clear Baghdad's impatience with resolving the MEK issue, stressing "the necessity of transferring the MEK members who are staying in Iraq illegally."

The MEK opposes Iran's clerical regime and until last year was labeled a terrorist group by the United States. It carried out a series of bombings and assassinations inside Iran in the 1980s and fought alongside Iraqi forces in the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war. Saddam granted

several thousand of its members sanctuary inside Iraq.

Iraq's current government is dominated by Shiites hostile to the former regime who have been bolstering ties with neighboring Shiite powerhouse Iran. They consider the MEK's presence in Iraq illegal and have been trying to expel its followers for years.

Shahin Gobadi, a spokesman for the MEK's parent organization, the Paris-based National Council of Resis-

tance of Iran, blames the Iraqi government for the killings and says it has no place investigating what happened.

"We have absolutely no confidence in this investigation. None whatsoever," Gobadi said. He called for an international fact-finding committee to investigate and said the perpetrators must be punished.

A U.N. team visited the camp on Monday, but that visit was intended to be "on humanitarian grounds, to assess where we can assist," said U.N. spokeswoman Eliana Nabaa.

The U.N. mission to Iraq at least for now does not have a mandate to conduct a formal investigation, she said. It is not clear what, if any, findings it plans to release.

Camp Ashraf is largely cut off from the outside world. The little face-to-face contact its residents have with outsiders is mainly through the Iraqi military, visiting diplomats and aid agencies.

Iraqi police were able to enter the camp Monday and have begun to investigate the incident, said Jamil al-Shimari, the police chief of Diyala province, where the camp is located.



# Focus

## CICERO, III. (AP)—Cops in the Chicago area call it a “track,” a stretch of street known for its steady sex trade.

Women in tight, scant clothing stand in high heels on street corners along an industrial strip in suburban Cicero. Customers, usually men, slow their cars and roll down a window.

“How much?” they ask.

Some might see these interludes as exchanges between consenting adults, or at the very least, consenting criminals, if the prostitute is, indeed, an adult and seemingly free to come and go as she pleases. They may call it a victimless crime, seeing domestic prostitution as something very different from human sex trafficking—with its cross-border abductions and brutal coercion—a scourge that’s come to the forefront of news in recent years.

But are they so different, after all? Increasingly, experts in the field are saying no, and applying the label human trafficking to homegrown prostitution. And now more lawmakers, police and prosecutors across the country are starting to shift their view on this, too. Increasingly, they are focusing on arresting traffickers and customers (pimps and johns, as it were) and on getting help for prostitutes.

“It’s almost similar to a domestic violence issue,” says Michael Anton, commander of the Cook County Sheriff’s vice unit, based in the Chicago. “A lot of (people) say, ‘Well, they can just get out.’

“Well, it’s not that easy.”

As of this year, Illinois became one of several states where prostitution is no longer a felony. It’s also one of a growing number where a minor cannot be charged with prostitution, even as a misdemeanor. Meanwhile, prosecutors in Cook County, which includes Chicago, have set up a human trafficking unit and, in recent years, have been using new state laws to put more traffickers in jail.

Cook County Sheriff’s police also run regular sting operations to ticket customers who proposition undercover female police officers, or who use popular escort websites. The johns must pay a fine. Police also impound their cars.

“Dear John,” read billboards the department has posted near various tracks, “If You’re Here To Solicit Sex, It Could Cost You \$2,150. We’re Teaming Up To Bust You.”

The money funds a rehabilitation program for prostitutes, and Anton says his vice unit officers have never arrested the same customer twice.

“I’m not saying we’ve stopped it,” he says. “They might be going to other areas. But we haven’t seen them again.”

Elsewhere, a law passed in New York state in 2010 allows women who can prove they were coerced to have prostitution convictions wiped from their records—a move that advocates say allows them more options for housing and employment.

And in California, voters recently passed Proposition 35, which increases prison terms for human traffickers, as well as fines, which also are to be used to pay for services for victims.

It’s progress, experts say. Yet a question often persists: Who is really a victim?

“We’ve got this idea of an ideal victim—someone who is physically



A “john” who attempted to pick up an officer posing as a prostitute is escorted in handcuffs to an area where he will be ticketed during a prostitution sting in Cicero, Ill., Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013.

# Who’s a victim of human sex trafficking?

By MARTHA IRVINE

AP National Writer

locked in a room, chained up, and who makes no money,” says Catherine Longkumer, a Chicago attorney who works with victims of trafficking to help them get their lives back together.

Certainly that classic example of the locked-up trafficking victim exists on our shores, too.

But others, she says, are forced into prostitution with more subtle, yet equally paralyzing coercion. While it’s not always obvious to the outside world, intimidation and drug addiction become tools for control.

“The reality is that traffickers are very smart,” Longkumer says. “You can use a lot of psychological coercion to keep a person bonded, things like threats, or ‘If you try to leave, you’ll be deported, or your family will be harmed.’”

But the matter of victimhood can get even murkier than that.

Bridget Carr, a trafficking expert and clinical professor of law at the University of Michigan, sees it all the time. She is director of the law school’s human trafficking clinic, where students get credit for representing clients, many of them teens and young women who are trying to break free from traffickers and start new lives.

But can people be “victims” if they sell their bodies for sex—and keep some of that money or trade it for drugs? Are they victims if a pimp provides cell phones, buys them clothes, or even cars, or places to stay? In some instances, a prostitute might even have

children with her pimp.

“Do we believe that people who make bad choices are victims?” Carr asks.

Often they are, she believes. But sometimes she says the public—and the people who are supposed to enforce these new laws—still have a difficult time seeing prostitutes as victims, even when they’re young.

One recent Friday morning in a stuffy, crowded classroom at the Cook County jail in Chicago, a few women shared stories at a meeting of a group called Prostitution Anonymous.

If they agree to get help, the women usually are not charged with prostitution in Cook County, though they may face other charges, from drug use to disorderly conduct.

Sheila Johnson, a 33-year-old inmate, told her peers how she had a difficult time breaking free from a boyfriend who was also her pimp, even though she feared him. She was addicted to drugs—and, she admitted, “the money.”

“As a regular person, I wouldn’t dare do the things that I did because I was on drugs,” Johnson said after the meeting, as tears streamed down her face. “Being sober, I wouldn’t DARE prostitute.”

Tiffany Schipitz, a 35-year-old inmate, said she eventually escaped from a pimp who threatened to kill her if she didn’t work for him.

“I’d never been put out on the street.

I’m a white suburbanite girl. That was unheard of growing up,” Schipitz says, describing how she fled the car of the first man who came to pick her up for sex. Eventually, though, she ended up back on the street, high, looking to earn more money for drugs.

“The next thing I know, I’m out on that corner, taking cars—one, two, three—like it’s nothing,” she says.

These are the sorts of stories Sgt. Craig Friesen, head of the vice unit for the police department in Anaheim, Calif., hears often.

“I never met any prostitute who said, ‘This was my ultimate goal in life,’” Friesen says. “They’ve all been brought into this life by someone. They’ve been exploited by someone.”

When determining who’s a victim of trafficking, though, his officers are trained to look for signs of coercion. They might ask a hotel clerk if the prostitute was not allowed to speak, or seemed frightened, when checking into a room. They look for bruises and other signs of abuse and bring in former prostitutes to do the interviews.

“You can dig more deeply and ask specific questions,” say Friesen, whose department began working with a local social service agency in 2010 in hopes of getting help for prostitutes and cutting the number of repeat offenders.

Department statistics show that from August 2011 through October 2012, Anaheim police arrested and charged 38 pimps. In that time, the department also got help for 52 women who were determined to be victims of hu-

man trafficking—and thus, were not charged. Of those, four are known to have returned to prostitution.

Carr, at the University of Michigan, says she hopes more departments will focus on screening prostitutes, female and male, and training officers to recognize the signs of trafficking.

“Really good screening can’t take place 10 minutes after an encounter with a law enforcement officer. The victim needs to be put in a safe place,” Carr says.

“There are lots of incentives to not say what’s happening to you.”

But even when officers determine that help is needed, there’s often not much they can do.

“Victims assistance is the weakest link in the chain,” says Mark Ensalaco, a trafficking expert who’s director of the human rights studies program at the University of Dayton.

He recalls one case, in recent years, when a young woman was rescued after an Ohio state trooper stopped a car on the interstate and recognized that she was a victim of sex trafficking. Beyond abuse, those signs can include malnourishment, having few possessions, avoiding eye contact and not having control of personal identification, such as a driver’s license or a passport.

This woman, too, was addicted to drugs, Ensalaco says, but never got the help she needed. Eventually, she committed suicide.

Even in states such as Illinois, long-term help—housing, mental health counseling and trauma services that are survivor-led—are lacking, says Lynne Johnson, the policy and advocacy director for the Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation.

“We have little pockets of progress,” she says, noting that much of it is aimed at minors. In Chicago, for instance, there’s now a long-term safe home with space for eight girls that is funded by a private donor. A drop-in center for youth on the city’s West Side, funded by federal grants, is open a couple days a week, Johnson says.

The Salvation Army, as it does in other cities, also helps for victims of human trafficking through its STOP-IT initiative. Those services might include giving victims cellphones, clothing and food, items traffickers may have provided to keep them dependent.

The victims also have access to counseling, but aren’t required to attend.

“We don’t tell them what to do. Our goal is to build independence, both from traffickers—and from us,” says Elyse Dobney, STOP-IT’s volunteer manager in the Chicago area.

Brenda Myers-Powell—a former prostitute who now works as a peer specialist and counselor at the Cook County jail—agrees that independence should be the goal.

Early in the process, it’s good for the public to understand that victims are victims, she says.

“But you can’t stay a victim forever,” she says. “At some point, you become a survivor.”

As a hand-made sign on the jail wall where the Prostitution Anonymous group meets says: “It’s never too late to be what you might have been.”

### ON THE NET

Salvation Army  
STOP-IT initiative:  
<http://sa-stopit.org/>



# Campus Life

## Some school districts quit healthier lunch program

After just one year, some schools around the country are dropping out of the healthier new federal lunch program, complaining that so many students turned up their noses at meals packed with whole grains, fruits and vegetables that the cafeterias were losing money.

Federal officials say they don't have exact numbers but have seen isolated reports of schools cutting ties with the \$11 billion National School Lunch Program, which reimburses schools for meals served and gives them access to lower-priced food.

Districts that rejected the program say the reimbursement was not enough to offset losses from students who began avoiding the lunch line and bringing food from home or, in some cases, going hungry.

"Some of the stuff we had to offer, they wouldn't eat," said Catlin, Ill., Superintendent Gary Lewis, whose district saw a 10 to 12 percent drop in lunch sales, translating to \$30,000 lost under the program last year.

"So you sit there and watch the kids, and you know they're hungry at the end of the day, and that led to some behavior and some lack of attentiveness."

In upstate New York, a few districts have quit the program, including the Schenectady-area Burnt Hills Ballston Lake system, whose five lunchrooms ended the year \$100,000 in the red.

Near Albany, Voorheesville Superintendent Teresa Thayer Snyder said her district lost \$30,000 in the first three months. The program didn't even make it through the school year after students repeatedly complained about the small portions and apples and pears went from the tray to the trash untouched.

Districts that leave the program are free to develop their own guidelines. Voorheesville's chef began serving such dishes as salad topped with flank steak and crumbled cheese, pasta with chicken and mushrooms, and a panini with chicken, red peppers and cheese.

In Catlin, soups and fish sticks will return to the menu this year, and the hamburger lunch will come with yogurt and a banana—not one or the other, like last year.

Nationally, about 31 million students participated in the guidelines that took effect last fall under the 2010 Healthy,

Hunger-Free Kids Act.

Dr. Janey Thornton, deputy undersecretary for USDA's Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, which oversees the program, said she is aware of reports of districts quitting but is still optimistic about the program's long-term prospects.

"The vast majority of schools across the country are meeting the updated meal standards successfully, which is so important to help all our nation's children lead healthier lives," Thornton said.

"Many of these children have never seen or tasted some of the fruits and vegetables that are being served before, and it takes a while to adapt and learn," she said.

The agency had not determined how many districts have dropped out, Thornton said, cautioning that "the numbers that have threatened to drop and the ones that actually have dropped are quite different."

The School Nutrition Association found that 1 percent of 521 district nutrition directors surveyed over the summer planned to drop out of the program in the 2013-14 school year and about 3 percent were considering the move.



AP  
In this Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2012 file photo, a select healthy chicken salad school lunch, prepared under federal guidelines, sits on display at the cafeteria at Draper Middle School in Rotterdam, N.Y.

Not every district can afford to quit. The National School Lunch Program provides cash reimbursements for each meal served: about \$2.50 to \$3 for free and reduced-priced meals and about 30 cents for full-price meals. That takes the option of quitting off the table for schools with large numbers of poor youngsters.

The new guidelines set limits on calories and salt, phase in more whole grains and require that fruit and vegetables be

served daily. A typical elementary school meal under the program consisted of whole-wheat cheese pizza, baked sweet potato fries, grape tomatoes with low-fat ranch dip, applesauce and 1 percent milk.

In December, the Agriculture Department, responding to complaints that kids weren't getting enough to eat, relaxed the 2-ounce-per-day limit on grains and meats while keeping the calorie limits.

At Wallace County High in

Sharon Springs, Kan., football player Callahan Grund said the revision helped, but he and his friends still weren't thrilled by the calorie limits (750-850 for high school) when they had hours of calorie-burning practice after school. The idea of dropping the program has come up at board meetings, but the district is sticking with it for now.

"A lot of kids were resorting to going over to the convenience store across the block from school and kids were buying junk food," the 17-year-old said. "It was kind of ironic that we're downsizing the amount of food to cut down on obesity but kids are going and getting junk food to fill that hunger."

To make the point, Grund and his schoolmates starred last year in a music video parody of the pop hit "We Are Young." Instead, they sang, "We Are Hungry."

It was funny, but Grund's mother, Chrysanne Grund, said her anxiety was not.

"I was quite literally panicked about how we would get enough food in these kids during the day," she said, "so we resorted to packing lunches most days." (AP)

### In Celebration of His New Life

## †Jose Pangelinan San Nicolas

Lovingly known as "Barf/Bokonggo"

Born to life on December 3, 1945 and was called to his eternal rest on August 28, 2013

#### In His New Life, He Now Joins His:

**Parents:** †Francisca & †Antonio L. San Nicolas

**Grandparents:** †Jose & †Maria Crisostomo Pangelinan

**Parents In-Law:** Juan S. & Lourdes A. Pua

**Sisters:** †Regina SN. Pinaula, †Agnes SN. Camacho, †Thomasa A. San Nicolas

**Brothers:** †Mariano A. San Nicolas

#### His Memories Will Forever Live In The Hearts of His:

**Wife:** Remedio Pua San Nicolas

**Children:** John & Norma (Derrin, Keona, Kymani)

**Derek & Isabel** (Ben, Isa, DJ, Derron)

**Jayson & Jovan**

**Myron** (Aundrea Renee, Keandra, Camilla Marley)

**Frances & Glenn**

**Reared Children:** Frances Pinaula, Arlene P. Valentino, Anthony Pinaula

**Brothers and Sisters:** †Regina SN. & †Isidro Pinaula and family, †Agnes SN. Camacho and family, David & Maria Rosa and family, †Mariano & Josephine San Nicolas and family, Margarita & Robert Guevera and family, Ramon & Susana San Nicolas and family, †Thomasa A. San Nicolas and family, Carmen & Jose Agulto and family, Jose & Maratess San Nicolas and Family

**Brothers and Sisters In-Law:** Edward & Doris Pua and family, Lorenza & Ricardo Castro and family, Alfredo & Jesusa Pua & Family, Sylvan & Jeanie and family, Doreen Chato and family, Martin & Rosa Pua and family, James & Patricia and daughter, Wilfred & Annette Pua and family

**He will also be missed by numerous Aunts, Uncles, Nieces, Nephews, Cousins, Godchildren, and friends.**

Daily Mass of Intention is being offered at St. Remedios Church in Tanapag at 6:00 PM, followed by the Holy Rosary at 7:00 P.M.

On Thursday, September 5, 2013 our beloved's remains will be escorted from CHC to St. Remedios Church in Tanapag for viewing and last respects.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 A.M., immediately followed by interment services at the Tanapag Cemetery.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated

Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'sae  
Ginen as Remedio, I Famagu'oña, yan if Familia

### FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of

Noel Quichocho  
Taisacan

We, the family of the late Noel Q. Taisacan, humbly invite all of our relatives, friends and acquaintances to join us in prayers as we commemorate the first year death anniversary of our dearly beloved unto eternal life.

Daily Mass will be offered at 6:00 pm at San Vicente Church, beginning Wednesday, August 28, 2013 through Thursday, September 5, 2013.

On the final day, Thursday, September 5, 2013, dinner will be served immediately after the mass at the San Vicente Social Hall.

Your prayers, thoughts and presence will forever be appreciated.

Lydia B. Taisacan & Children



# Life & Style

## Final words from Seamus Heaney: 'Don't be afraid'

**DUBLIN (AP)**—Ireland mourned the loss of its Nobel laureate poet, Seamus Heaney, with equal measures of poetry and pain Monday in a funeral full of grace notes and a final message from the great man himself: Don't be afraid.

Among those packing the pews of Dublin's Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart were government leaders from both parts of Ireland; poets, playwrights and novelists; all four members of the rock band U2; the actor Stephen Rea, and former Lebanese hostage Brian Keenan.

Ireland's foremost uilleann piper, Liam O'Flynn, played a wailing lament before family members and friends offered a string of readings from the Bible and their own often-lyrical remembrances of the country's most celebrated writer of the late 20th century.

Heaney won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1995 in recognition of his wide-ranging writings inspired by the rural wonders of Ireland, the strife of his native Northern Ireland, the ancient cultures of Europe, of Catholic faith and Celtic mysticism, and the immutability of family ties. He died Friday in a Dublin hospital at the age of 74.

A eulogy by poet Paul Muldoon went strong on humor-tinted anecdotes of Heaney's easygoing family life, "bouncy" charm and "big-hearted celebrity."

Muldoon recalled how Heaney, after being fitted with a pacemaker following his 2006 stroke, "took an almost unseemly delight in announcing: Blessed are the pacemakers." He described Heaney's greatest trait as simply "his beauty" as both a bard and human being.

An Irish publisher and fellow poet, Peter Fallon, offered a reading of "The Given Note," the only Heaney poem read aloud during the ceremony.

O'Flynn, who often collaborated with Heaney on the poet's audio-recorded readings of his works, then played "Port na bPucaí," Gaelic for "The Fairies' Tune," a medieval song of myth and legend that inspired the same poem.

The 90-minute service ended with a cellist's rendition of the childhood bedtime classic,

"Brahms's Lullaby." Mourners hummed along with the tune; some could even be seen mouthing the words "lullaby and goodnight" as Heaney's sons and siblings carried the casket up the aisle. Heaney himself had requested the music be played at his funeral.

In a tribute delivered from the pulpit, one of Heaney's three children revealed his final words: a text message from his hospital bed to his wife, Marie.

Michael Heaney said the words, "written a few minutes before he passed away, were in his beloved Latin. And they read: 'Noli timere.' Don't be afraid." That revelation opened a ripple of tears in the audience, including from Marie and only daughter Catherine in the front row beside the flower-topped coffin.

Outside, on a blustery and sunny day, hundreds spontaneously applauded as his casket emerged into the light on the shoulders of his sons, Michael and Christopher, and other relatives. Irish President Michael D. Higgins, himself a poet, embraced Heaney's widow.

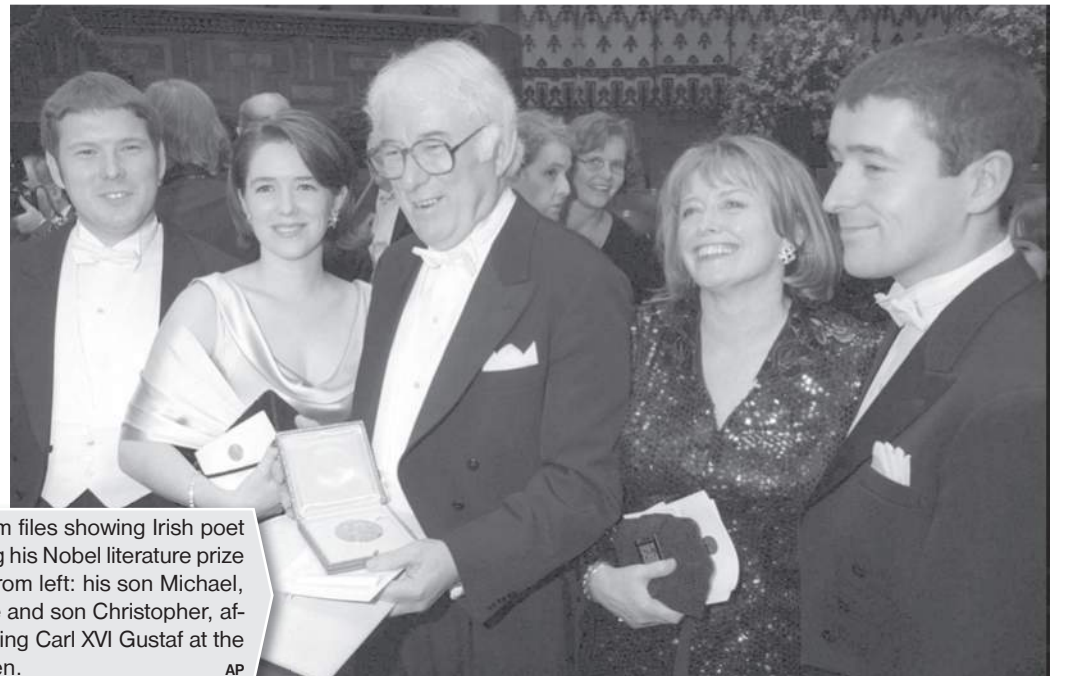
One of the poets who read prayers at the service, Theo Dorgan, said lovers of poetry worldwide had expected Heaney to live much longer, given his strong mind and masculine vigor.

"A great oak has fallen. A lot of people sheltered in the amplitude of the leaf and light and shade of the oak that was Seamus. He expanded our idea of what poetry is and can be," Dorgan said in an interview.

Heaney's funeral cortege received a police escort on the long drive north to his family home in Bellaghy, a Northern Ireland village that was the fountainhead for much of his work. He was buried in the family plot in Bellaghy's cemetery.

Elsewhere Monday, thousands queued to sign books of condolence opened in Dublin, Belfast and the Northern Ireland city of Londonderry, where Heaney attended Catholic boarding school in the 1950s.

On Sunday, a crowd of 80,000 observed a minute's silence and applauded the memory of Heaney at a Gaelic football match between Dublin and Kerry.



Sunday, Dec. 10, 1995 photo from files showing Irish poet Seamus Heaney, center, displaying his Nobel literature prize medal, surrounded by his family, from left: his son Michael, daughter Catherine, his wife Marie and son Christopher, after receiving it from the Swedish King Carl XVI Gustaf at the Concert Hall in Stockholm, Sweden. AP

*In Loving Memory*

### †Joaquina Cabrera Sablan

July 2, 1928 - August 29, 2013

*In her New Life, She Now Joins:*

**Her Parents,** †Manuel Castro Cabrera and †Dolores Chafauros Cabrera  
**Her Husband,** †Felipe Camacho Sablan

*Her Memories Will Forever Live in the Hearts of Her Children,*

**Manuel C.** (Ange) & Margarita (Nita) G. Sablan and family  
**Dolores S.** (Aringko) & John G. Moore and family  
**Nieves S.** & Jose C. Tomokane and family  
**Lourdes C.** Sablan and family  
**Maria S.** (Wella) and Arnold I. Palacios and family  
**Asuncion S.** (Bea) and Joaquin T. Quitugua and family  
**Felipe C.** and Rebecca K. Sablan and family  
**Trinidad S.** (Doll) and Juan D. Diaz and family

**Her Brother In-Law** Pedro C. Sablan and  
**Sisters In-Law** Dolores A. Cabrera,  
Fidelia S. Salas, and Antonia K. Sablan.

*Joaquina will also be remembered by  
the families of her Siblings and  
In-Laws who have since left before her.*

Nightly Rosary is being said from  
August 30 through September 6, 2013  
at Kristo Rai Parish at 7:00 p.m.

On Saturday, September 7, 2013 her body  
will be escorted from Nuestra Senora Dela  
Paz (Cabrera Center) to Kristo Rai Parish  
at 7:30 am followed by Responso and Holy  
Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be  
celebrated at 11:00 am.

Please join us in prayer.  
Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

**The Family**





# Movie in Spanish grosses big in US weekend debut

**MEXICO CITY (AP)**—English speakers need subtitles to understand the movie and probably Google to know where they've seen the star, if at all.

But a movie featuring a Mexican actor whose shows have been a TV staple in Mexico for years has taken Hollywood by surprise.

The movie "Instructions Not Included," with Eugenio Derbez as actor, director and one of the writers, turned in the biggest Spanish-language opening ever over the Labor Day holiday weekend in the U.S., according to studio estimates Monday.

It took in \$10 million and ranked fifth at the box office, competing with blockbusters such as "The Butler" and Disney animation "Planes" that were shown in 10 times more theaters.

"Latinos are becoming more and more the population. In a way, you can count on them to be an anchor audience," said Charles Ramirez Berg, media studies professor at the University of Texas and author of "Latino Images in Film."

The comedy tells the story of Valentin, a playboy in the resort city of Acapulco who one day is paid a surprise visit by one of his conquests and her baby daughter, who is his. The mother runs away, forcing the single heart-throb into a parent role.

Valentin moves with his daughter to Los Angeles after learning the mother might live there. Even when they fail to find her, they stay in the U.S., where blonde, blue-eyed Maggie grows up speaking an accent-less English in school and flawless Spanish at home. One day, the mother shows up to claim her daughter.

"It's comedy, drama. It's about family. It's about parenting children. And you are going to get the audience that can relate to that," Ramirez Berg said.

Even when the movie did not



In this Aug. 22, 2013 file photo, Jessica Lindsey, left, Loreto Peralta, center, and Mexican film director Eugenio Derbez attend Pantelion Films' "Instructions Not Included" Los Angeles Premiere After Party, in Los Angeles.

get the Hollywood P.R. treatment and relied mostly on Derbez's social media influence for promotion, it packed theaters in California and Texas over the weekend. It brought the 347 theaters where it opened \$28,800 each in average ticket sales, according to Hollywood.com.

"Here is the hyper-grossing hit of Eugenio, earning more

than three times per theater than Hollywood's Hot-List," tweeted Mexican actor Kuno Becker, who is currently a cast member of TNT television series "Dallas."

The film's distributor is Pantelion Films, a joint venture of Lions Gate and Mexican media giant Televisa that is tapping into the fast-growing Hispanic

population, which accounts for a quarter of frequent moviegoers in the U.S.

Pantelion released the mother-daughter comedy "Girl in Progress" with Eva Mendes, which is mostly in English, and "Casa de Mi Padre," which featured a goofy Spanish-speaking Will Ferrell. But "Instructions" already brought

more in ticket sales than those two films combined.

Derbez thought of the movie as his crossover to "conquer the Anglo market," even though it's mostly in Spanish, he told The Associated Press.

His face may not be as well-known in the U.S., playing only small roles alongside Adam Sandler in "Jack and Jill" and appearing in the one-season TV sitcom "Rob." But unlike Salma Hayek, whose

career really took off in Hollywood, Derbez is already a big star in Latin America.

The versatile comedian has turned his characters' expressions into everyday sayings in Mexico. He has played an ugly monk who picks his nose, a hairy-chested Snow White and the patriarch of a plush-wearing family.

"Now I wanted to do a moving film that touched the heart," Derbez said.

## NY college houses endangered Thomas Paine writings

**NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y. (AP)**—He helped inspire the American Revolution, but Thomas Paine suffered a broad range of indignities afterward: Political cartoonists lampooned him, he was denied the right to vote and a coin was minted that pictured him in a noose.

After his death, his body was dug up and lost and the gravesite was paved over.

As for his writings and personal effects, "His archives, like his bones, have been scattered," one scholar said.

But now a historic endangered collection, including first editions of "Common Sense," Paine's eyeglasses and locks of his hair, has found a safe new home at Iona College in the New York City suburbs, barely a mile from what was once Paine's farm.

When the Institute for Thomas Paine Studies formally opens Sept. 9 at Iona, it will be a widely welcomed resolution to a battle over the fate of the memorabilia.

"I'm just delighted," said Martin Levitt, library director at the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, which also has a world-class Paine collection. "Paine is the most misunderstood of the Founding Fathers, sort of the black sheep, and making more of his lifetime work available to scholars is going to be a tremendous improvement."

Paine is best known for writing "Common Sense," a hugely popular pro-Revolution pamphlet that was credited with building enthusiasm for the war and encouraging volunteers for the Continental Army. And his "Crisis" writings helped stiffen American resolve during the difficult war.

"These are the times that try men's souls," he wrote during the first winter of the Revolution.

But despite the success of the war, Paine's popularity soon plummeted over his part in the French Revolution, his writings against organized religion and his letter denouncing George Washington and federalism.

Theodore Roosevelt called Paine a "filthy little atheist," though modern scholars say he believed in God—but not churches. "My religion is to do good," he wrote.

"He's still being argued about

today," said Scott Cleary, faculty director of the new institute.

The collection, 300 or so pieces amassed since 1884 by the Thomas Paine National Historical Association, is to serve as the basis of courses and conferences at Iona, which has already established a minor in Thomas Paine Studies.

Daniel Guiney, an Iona senior from Hastings-on-Hudson who took one of the new Paine courses last year, said, "I kind of stumbled onto it, but I really got the Paine bug. ... I'm almost sorry I'll be graduating soon because I'd like to do the minor."

The collection will be accessible to students and outside scholars and to the public in rotating displays in Iona's sleek, climate-controlled Ryan Library.

In contrast, many of the prize pieces spent recent years locked in a huge safe in a back room at the historical association's 1925 building in New Rochelle as members tried to protect them from deteriorating conditions, said Gary Ber-ton, a former president.

"I was horrified," said Brad Mulkern, now the president and executive director of the association, recalling his first visit to the building. "The roof had holes in it, it was leaking through the ceiling. ... I just couldn't believe stuff that was so priceless was so exposed. I mean, this is Thomas Paine, the man who called for revolution!"

The association's board sold some valuable pieces to raise money for repairs, which brought complaints and an investigation by the state attorney general's office. Eventually, the collection was sent to the New-York Historical Society in Manhattan.

The move to Manhattan didn't sit well with some in New Rochelle, Paine being a local boy. Meanwhile, just down the street from association headquarters, Iona was undertaking an archive to store its collection of Irish history. The college people and the Paine people got together and the idea of an institute was born—and court approved.

"It was just serendipitous," Mulkern said. "Before, I was heartbroken. Now, I couldn't be happier. It's a win for the community, it's a win for Iona and it's a win for Thomas Paine."

## Venice: Ostermann reveals wolf children plight

**VENICE, Italy (AP)**—A piece of family history led German director Rick Ostermann to revisit some long-forgotten victims of the chaos immediately following World War II: German children, who lost their parents, struggling to survive in formerly German lands then occupied by Russia.

Ostermann says the stories of the so-called wolf children are a piece of history that has been little discussed in postwar Germany, but that his generation is now interested in looking at the past from a different angle, including at Germans' suffering. He cited a recent TV series, "Our Mothers, Our Fathers," which explored the role of ordinary Germans during the war.

"I know that Germany caused all of this, this war and everything. This is not the point. We know it and it's really, really dramatic. I think we can look at other things that happened during and

after the war," Ostermann said in an interview last week before the premiere of his film, "Wolfskinder" out of the main competition at the Venice Film Festival.

Ostermann was inspired by his mother's evacuation with her family from East Prussia to Luebeck following World War II, when she was just 5, to discover the stories of children who had been less fortunate. Because the phenomenon is relatively unknown, Ostermann said preparing the script required a long period of research, including interviews with wolf children, whose stories for decades had been ignored.

"They told me all of the bad things that happened, and they were really bad, bad. But they said, 'There were always situations where we were kids, because we were kids,'" Ostermann said. "The kids are very hard and cruel. They have to survive, and are

going to kill each other in some situations and they kill animals because they have to survive. On the other hand, they are still kids, they play around."

"Wolfskinder" follows the story of two brothers, Hans and Fritzchen, whose mother's dying wish is that the children go to Lithuania, which is more sympathetic to Germans, and ask to be taken in by a farmer's family they know. The brothers must scrounge for food and hide from Russian soldiers, who hunt the unattended, stray German children down with vengeance for Germany's role in starting a war that killed millions of Russians. Hans, the older but less-capable brother, loses Fritzchen when they come under fire from Russians, and he joins a small band of other German children as he tries to find his brother.

For Ostermann, nature was another protagonist in the film, the

place where the children could find moments of childhood, sticking out blueberry-stained tongues and plunging into lakes. "Nature was their new home," Ostermann said. "It was where they got their food, and where nothing happened to them."

Nature also gives the film its pace. Cinematographer Leah Striker provides both sweeping scenes of nature, at times reminiscent of early Terrence Malick, and close-ups reflecting a child's view. The film was largely shot on location in Lithuania, where many of the wolf children remained.

"We took very short lenses, so anytime we wanted to see something, we had to be close up, we went there," Striker told a news conference. "We took quite wide lenses to show how small these children actually are. We wanted to constantly feel the sense of there being no deliverance."



# 'Fifty Shades' movie casts Dakota Johnson, Hunnam

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The big-screen adaptation of E L James' "Fifty Shades of Grey" has cast its lead roles.

Charlie Hunnam will play the 27-year-old billionaire Christian Grey, and Dakota Johnson will play the college student he captivates, Anastasia Steele. Focus Features and Universal Pictures announced the castings Monday.

The 23-year-old Johnson is the daughter of actors Don Johnson and Melanie Griffith. She has had small roles in "The Social Network" and "21 Jump Street."

The 33-year-old British actor Hunnam starred in this sum-



**Hunnam**

mer's robot-monster battle "Pacific Rim." He currently stars in the FX series "Sons of Anarchy."



**Johnson**

Directed by Sam Taylor-Johnson, the film is to be released next August.

## Rock star joins protest against Japan dolphin hunt

**TOKYO (AP)**—Former Guns N' Roses drummer Matt Sorum was in a remote Japanese fishing village Monday to protest against its annual dolphin hunt.

Sorum, who now leads his own group, is the latest celebrity to join the increasingly global campaign to stop the dolphin kill in Taiji, a quaint fishing village in central Japan made famous by the Academy Award-winning 2009 film about the hunt called "The Cove."

The movie depicts how dolphins are herded into a cove and speared by fishermen for their meat. The fishermen say the hunt is part of their village's tradition and call Western critics who eat other kinds of meat hypocritical.

The film features Ric O'Barry, who trained dolphins for the 1960s "Flipper" TV series and has devoted the latter part of his life to protecting dolphins and keeping them in nature.

Sorum arrived in Taiji on Sept. 1, the day the annual dolphin hunt begins, with O'Barry and dozens of Japanese and Western conservationists.

"Like a bad nightmare, I'm watching it almost like a twilight zone, surreal, looking into my eyes in complete disbelief—what's going on in front of me," Sorum said, speaking by phone from Taiji after witnessing the hunt.

Dolphin and whale meat is considered an eccentric delicacy in Japan, though not all Japanese eat it and not all Japanese know about the hunts. Some nationalist groups have used the controversy to highlight their own message, accusing O'Barry and other Westerners of interfering with Japanese culture.

Over the weekend, nationalists in Taiji used loudspeakers to broadcast their message about the right to kill dolphins, and held a barbecue, presumably of whale or dolphin meat, at the cove, where Sorum and others opposing the hunt were watching.

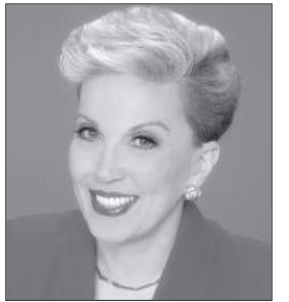
"Our work here is about supporting the Japanese activists," O'Barry said. "You only hear about the blood and the guts, and it's being created by less than 50 men. It's not even the whole town of Taiji, and certainly not the country of Japan."

Sorum, who has also played with Velvet Revolver, said he hoped to organize a rock concert in Tokyo around the theme of "celebrating the dolphin," bringing together Japanese and Western musicians, including his new band, Kings of Chaos.

"I'm going to bring a bunch of heavyweights, big rock stars," said Sorum. "The main thing is to get the Japanese kids."

## Grandma weighs her decision to sever contact with daughter

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR ABBY:** Two years ago one of my granddaughters was molested by her mother's (my daughter's) then-boyfriend, whom they were living with. When the girl's father found out, he called the police and the man was arrested, tried and convicted.

Abby, while he was out on bail, my daughter married him! She doesn't believe the molestation took place. If I were in her shoes, I would certainly believe my 8-year-old daughter over a boyfriend about something so damaging.

I cut off contact with this daughter, as did her sisters. She occasionally calls my husband (who is not her father) when she wants something, and I have received a few texts, which I ignore.

Am I doing the right thing? I sometimes feel guilty, but it angers me that she didn't stand behind her daughter and has made no effort to see either of her girls over the past two years. I see them often because their dad knows I stand with the girls 100 percent.

GRANDMA IN OHIO

**DEAR GRANDMA:** The answer to your question depends upon why your daughter hasn't seen her children in two years. If it's because their father won't allow it, then her estrangement from her daughters isn't her fault. If it has been her choice, however, then stop feeling guilty.

**DEAR ABBY:** I need your opinion about my ex-husband and his lack of respect for boundaries. He moved out of our home two years ago, but never changed his mailing address. We have been officially divorced for six months. He feels it's OK to come to our "married house" anytime he wants. We have two teenage children who refuse to spend the night with him.

When he comes to my house, he goes through the mail, opens the cabinets and refrigerators, even goes into my room when I'm not home and watches TV. I am dating someone new and don't feel comfortable with this setup. I'm worried it will cause problems with my new friend, and I don't know how to stop this madness.

We currently have the "married house" on the market, and I want to make sure he knows he won't be welcome in my new home if not invited. How do I avoid conflict with him and my kids?

REALLY DIVORCED IN ST. LOUIS

**DEAR REALLY DIVORCED:** You should have set clear boundaries the day your divorce became official, but it's still not too late to do so. Tell your ex to notify the post office—and his creditors—of his change of address, and that if his mail continues to show up at your house, after a month it will be returned to the post office with the notation "not at this address."

You should also inform him and your children that you do not want him in your house in your absence. If he doesn't respect your wishes, then change the locks. The time he spends with your teenage children should also be elsewhere. He may not like the fact that you are establishing your independence, but you have a right to your privacy.

**TO MY JEWISH READERS:** Sundown starts Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year. It is the beginning of our time of solemn introspection. I would like to wish you all "Leshana tova tikatevu"—may you be inscribed in the Book of Life and enjoy another good year.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

## Actor Michael Douglas says no crisis in marriage



US actor Michael Douglas lifts a bottle of champagne as he arrives for the German premiere of the movie 'Behind The Candelabra' in Berlin, Germany, Monday, Sept. 2, 2013.

**BERLIN (AP)**—Actor Michael Douglas says he doesn't have a crisis at home and that he and his wife Catherine Zeta-Jones "are fine" and taking a "temporary separation."

Douglas was speaking in Berlin on Monday while pro-

moting Liberace film "Behind the Candelabra."

In response to a question from the media, he said "I have a crisis at home? No, I think the press has a crisis. We, we are fine. My wife and I are, are fine. We take a temporary separation, but the press, it

gives you stuff to write about."

Zeta-Jones, 43, and Douglas, 68, were married in 2000. They have two children. He battled throat cancer in 2010 and made headlines this summer when he spoke out about one potential cause, oral sex.

## 'Miss Violence' shocks with domestic abuse tales

**VENICE, Italy (AP)**—Greek director Alexandros Avranas says he was seeking to give domestic abuse victims a voice in his deeply disturbing movie "Miss Violence."

Avranas said in an interview that the film was based on a true story in Germany about a

grandfather who prostituted his daughter and his granddaughters to his friends. The director said he was driven to make a film to "speak all about these children who have no voice."

He said while the actors grew depressed due to the movie's

subject matter "they had the feeling that they are helping other persons to stop doing this, to see a way to make a revolution. That was our hope, our motive."

The film premieres Monday in competition at the Venice Film Festival.

## Beach Boys sound check interrupts Ohio wedding

**CLEVELAND (AP)**—A north-east Ohio couple had planned every detail of their wedding—except for the sound check of a Beach Boys concert next door during their ceremony.

A few bars of "God Only Knows" played as Mark Kent and

Jaime Diadium exchanged vows next to the Jacobs Pavilion at Nautica in Cleveland last month.

The Plain Dealer in Cleveland reports that when the band found out about the timing of its sound check, the newlyweds' guests were told they could at-

tend the concert for free. Many of them wandered over for a couple of songs.

When the bride stopped by the concert, she was brought on stage for the encore and played the tambourine next to Mike Love as he sang "Fun, Fun, Fun."



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

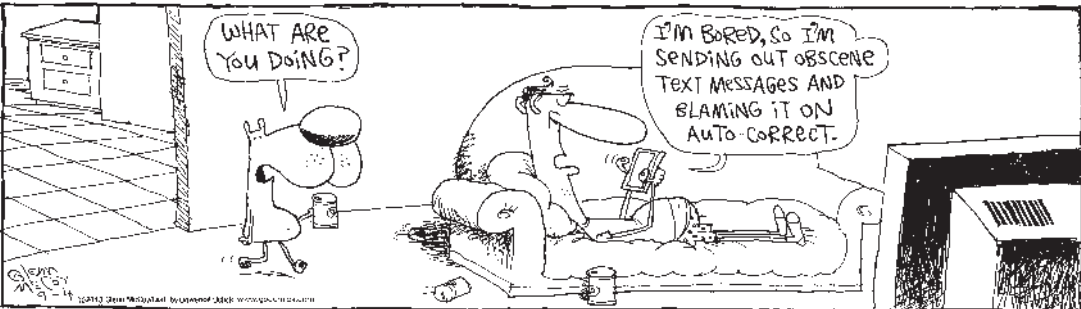
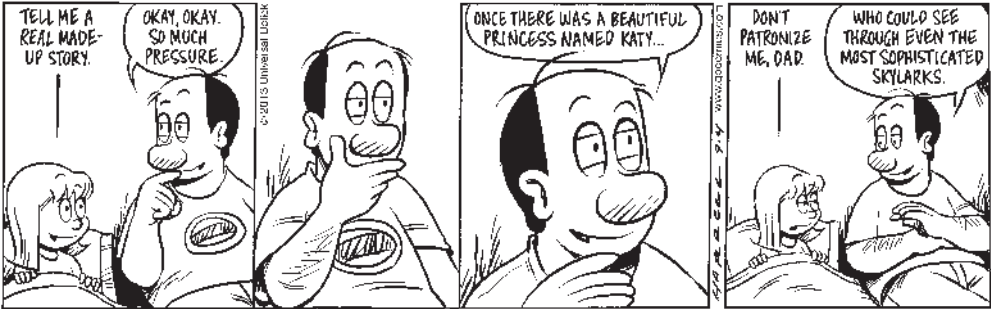


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



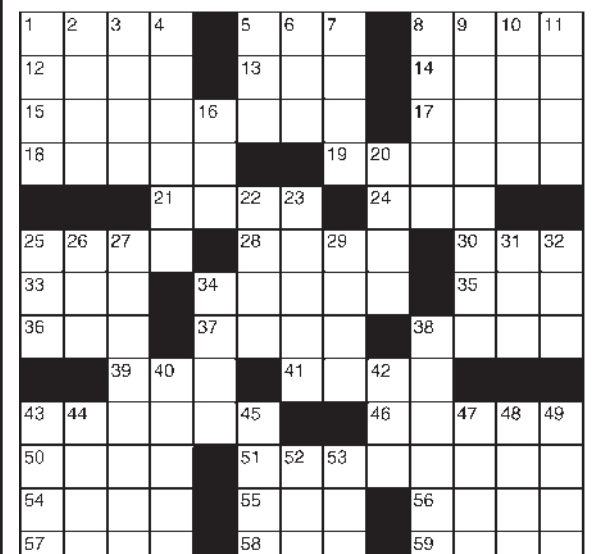
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Horse's gait
  - 5 Indivisible
  - 8 Speech impediment
  - 12 Bellow
  - 13 Irritate
  - 14 Aware of
  - 15 Ballpark figure
  - 17 Couple, to gossipers
  - 18 "Whoop-ee!"
  - 19 Pinch pennies
  - 21 Entrance
  - 24 Height of fashion?
  - 25 Green stone
  - 28 Transcending (Pref.)
  - 30 "Hail, Caesar!"
  - 33 "— had it!"
  - 34 Permissible
  - 35 Can material
  - 36 Apple computer
  - 37 Latin listender
  - 38 Vegan's no-no
- DOWN**
- 1 Deuce
  - 2 Artist
  - 3 Solemn promise
  - 4 Vacuum tube type
  - 5 Eggs
  - 6 Butterfly catcher
  - 7 Former partners
  - 8 French river
  - 9 Hint
  - 10 Goblet feature
  - 11 "— and Circumstance"
  - 16 Cattle call
  - 20 Converse
  - 22 Skip over
  - 23 Summary
  - 25 Conrad's "Lord —"
  - 26 Palin-dromic girl's name
  - 27 Cause great harm
  - 29 Scrabble piece
  - 31 By way of
  - 32 Tolkien tree dweller
  - 34 Rock band, Kings of —
  - 38 Soft sound
  - 40 Mid-eastern money
  - 42 Marseilles monarch
  - 43 Tears
  - 44 Great Lake
  - 45 Nobleman
  - 47 Broadway's Nathan
  - 48 Elevator name
  - 49 Immediately upcoming
  - 52 Meadow
  - 53 Stick with a kick

Solution time: 21 mins.



Yesterday's answer 9-4



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Whitney Cummings, 31; Beyonce Knowles, 32; Wes Bentley, 35; Drew Pinsky, 55.

**Happy Birthday:** Clear up emotional issues that are weighing you down and standing between you and your goals. Your keen sense of awareness and fine-tuned intuition will help you see the motives behind situations that have been confusing in the past. Recognize your talent and put what you love to do most at the forefront of your intentions and plans for the future. Your numbers are 5, 9, 20, 26, 35, 39, 44.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** It's what you do, not what you say, that counts. Put pressure on anyone holding up your ability to forge ahead. Productivity will bring you the good fortune and unique opportunities you've been waiting for. Relationships will require compromise. ★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Take on any competition you face with determination and confidence that you can surpass anyone who challenges you. Keep your ideas a secret until you are ready to launch your plans. You will impress someone who values what you have to offer. ★★★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Listen attentively but don't make promises based on hearsay. Unexpected circumstances will occur, leaving you in an uncompromising position if you act too quickly. Romantic relationships will be enticing, but mustn't disrupt your work or professional goals. ★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Share your thoughts and talk over your concerns, but

refrain from making a decision that will affect you emotionally or physically. You may feel you need a change, but let common sense and practicality be your guide concerning personal matters. ★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Protect your home and family and refuse to let anyone stand between you and your personal goals. Love is in the stars, and a change of plans will help secure a position that will improve your prospects and your professional standing. ★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Don't be fooled by what others claim to have accomplished or accumulated. You have as much to be proud of as the next person. Steady increases are apparent, and by sharing your expertise, your value will be recognized. ★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Make changes that free up time. Go over personal papers and make adjustments that secure your financial or legal position. Fixing up a space where you can work on something you enjoy doing will boost your desire to be entrepreneurial. ★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** A private look into an idea or plan will spark an interest and bring about discussions regarding a lucrative prospect. Keep an open mind and look at all your resources before making a decision. You will get further ahead on your own. ★★★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You won't see clearly, leading to disagreements with a friend, relative or co-worker. Listen to what's being said before you ruin a good relationship. Deception and disillusionment are apparent. Don't let an old love connection cost you emotionally. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** The practical choice will attract you, but a friend or lover will push you to be more extravagant. A reasonable solution can be found if you use your tactful way of offering something that is within your budget. ★★★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Take care of medical or physical improvement issues you have. What you do now financially, emotionally or medically will lead to greater vocational opportunities in the future. A romantic relationship will benefit from the choices you make. ★★★

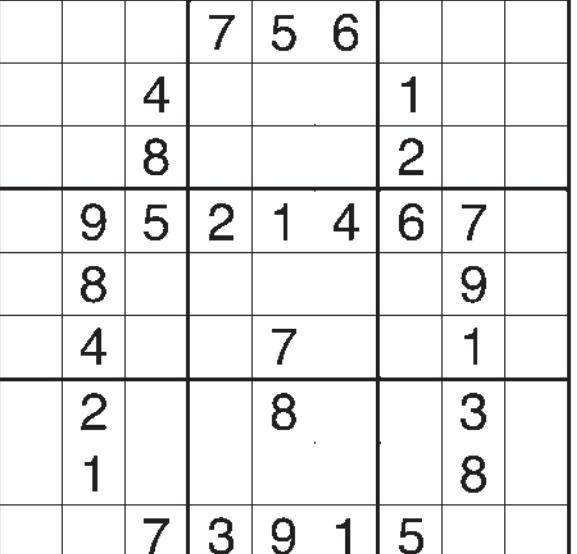
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Shoot for the stars. You have control over the situation you face, so carry on with confidence, moving effortlessly to show others how capable you are. A partnership will offer benefits, but you must run the show. ★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You have drive and determination. You think big and strive for perfection.

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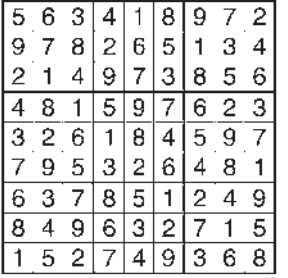
Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS Solution: 7 letters



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Yesterday's Answer: Forgiving  
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# Lacking confidence, Federer bows out of US Open



**N E W Y O R K** (AP)—Surrounded by a half-dozen tournament security guards, Roger Federer made the long, slow trek across the U.S. Open grounds from the court in Louis Armstrong Stadium to the locker room in Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Head down, he carried a racket bag on his left shoulder.

The hour was a little past 8 p.m. on Monday evening, one week to the day before the men's final is scheduled to be played in Flushing Meadows, and Federer was, once again in this difficult season, heading home far earlier than he is used to at Grand Slam time.

And the words he spoke after his surprisingly straightforward 7-6 (3), 6-3, 6-4 loss to 19th-seeded Tommy Robredo of Spain made it sound as if Federer is having doubts about his game.

"Confidence ... takes care of all the things you don't usually think about," Federer said. "But I just think it's been a difficult last three months, you know. Maybe ... my consistency is just not quite there."

Maybe?

This caps a poor-by-his-standards Grand Slam season for Federer, whose record collection of 17 major trophies includes five in a row at the U.S. Open from 2004-08.

This is the first season since 2002 that Federer did not reach at least one final at any of the four Grand Slam tournaments. That year also marked the last time Federer was ranked lower than he is now at No. 7.

He exited in the semifinals at the Australian Open in January, the quarterfinals at the French Open in early June, and the second round of Wimbledon—against a player ranked 116th, to boot—in late June. That ended Federer's record run of reaching at least the quarterfinals at 36 consecutive Grand Slam tournaments.

Now, thanks to Robredo, Federer has a new, unwanted streak: Two consecutive losses before the quarterfinals at majors. This time, the early exit prevented Federer from meeting rival Rafael Nadal in the round of eight at Flushing Meadows, where they have never played each other.

In an interview the day before the tournament began, Nadal spoke about how he and Federer "deserved a final here," the way they met in four title matches at the French Open, three at Wimbledon, and one at the Australian Open (Nadal won six of those eight, part of an overall 21-10 head-to-head edge).

Nadal reiterated that sentiment after beating 22nd-seeded Philipp Kohlschreiber of Germany 6-7 (4), 6-4, 6-3, 6-1 on Monday night in the fourth round.

"Didn't happen. (That doesn't) mean cannot happen in



Roger Federer, of Switzerland, walks off the court after losing in straight sets to Tommy Robredo, of Spain, during the fourth round of the 2013 U.S. Open tennis tournament, Monday, Sept. 2, 2013, in New York

the future. We'll see. Hopefully," the 27-year-old Nadal said of a U.S. Open showdown with the 32-year-old Federer. "But is true that we are getting older, so the chances are less today than five years ago."

While Federer has been known in the past to chalk up poor performances to a bothersome back or bad weather, this time he kept uttering phrases that were critical of his own play against Robredo, against whom he'd been 10-0.

"I struggled throughout, which is not very satisfying, to be honest," Federer said.

"I kind of feel like I beat myself," he added, moments later.

"I kind of self-destructed, which is very disappointing," he continued.

Perhaps trying to convince himself as much as others, Federer tried to offer a positive outlook toward the end of his news conference.

"I've definitely got to go back to work and come back stronger. Get rid of this loss now as quick as I can, forget about it, because that's not how I want to play from here on," he said. "I want to play better. I know I can."

Robredo has been ranked as high as No. 5, albeit back in 2006, and this is his seventh trip to the quarterfinals at a major. But he had been 0-7 in the U.S. Open's fourth round. Against Federer, he managed to win only three of the 27 previous sets they'd played.

"Roger, when he was No. 1, (compared) to the Roger right now," Robredo said, "he's not maybe (playing) with the same confidence, no?"

Here's the way Robredo described the atmosphere at Armstrong, where the match was played because of rain-provoked scheduling shifts: When he walked out onto the court

before the match, "it was like 2 percent of noise," while when Federer arrived, it sounded "like a concert."

The weather delays also prompted the tournament to

postpone two-time Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka's fourth-round match against 2008 French Open champion Ana Ivanovic until Tuesday. The winner will face Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia, who got past American wild-card entry Alison Riske, a 23-year-old who grew up in Pittsburgh, 6-3, 5-7, 6-2 on Monday.

Two women's quarterfinals are Tuesday: defending champion and No. 1-seeded Serena Williams against No. 18 Carla Suarez Navarro of Spain, and 2011 French Open champion Li Na of China against No. 24 Ekaterina Makarova of Russia.

The last four men's fourth-round matches also are on Tuesday's schedule, including No. 1 Novak Djokovic against 43rd-ranked Marcel Granollers of Spain, and defending champion Andy Murray against 65th-ranked Denis Istomin of Uzbekistan.

In men's action Monday, No. 4 David Ferrer of Spain, the runner-up to Nadal at the French Open this year, moved on by beating No. 18 Janko Tipsarevic of Serbia 7-6 (2), 3-6, 7-5, 7-6 (3). In the quarterfinals, Ferrer will play No. 8 Richard Gasquet, who entered the day 1-15 in fourth-round Grand Slam matches but erased a match point and withstood 39 aces from No. 10 Milos Raonic to win 6-7 (4), 7-6 (4), 2-6, 7-6 (9), 7-5 on Court 17.

A long line of fans snaked across the grounds when Federer-Robredo was shifted to Armstrong, which holds about 10,000 spectators and has a lot less room separating the playing surface from the stands. Federer, accustomed to playing in Ashe, last competed in Armstrong in 2006.

He said that was not a factor in Monday's outcome, though. The blame, instead, belonged with his inability to hit his strokes the way he wanted.

Federer was particularly ineffective when he had chances on Robredo's serve. Time and again, Federer would get an opening, a chance to begin the long climb back into the match. And he kept letting those opportunities slip by.

"We all know the way he plays, how easy he can do everything," Robredo said. "But I think the difference today was the break points conversion."

That's true. Robredo went 4 for 7; Federer was 2 for 16, including 0 for 12 in the last two sets.

Soaked with perspiration, Federer flubbed a backhand to waste the last of five break points he had in the fourth game of what turned out to be the final set. He kicked the offending ball, a rare sign of frustration from the generally unflappable Federer.

"The story of my life," Federer said afterward. "When I lose, people are shell-shocked to see me play this way."

## Hawks coach Budenholzer arrested on DUI charge

**ATLANTA** (AP)—Atlanta Hawks coach Mike Budenholzer has apologized for his arrest on a driving under the influence of alcohol charge.

According to a report from the Georgia State Patrol, Budenholzer was pulled over at 10:30 p.m. Wednesday in Atlanta for not having working taillights. Trooper J. Nelms said Budenholzer had bloodshot and watery eyes "and a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from his breath."

Budenholzer refused a breath test but agreed to a field sobriety test, according to the report. He told Nelms he had only one glass of wine and that he finished the glass about 15 minutes before being pulled over. Nelms said in the report

that Budenholzer was "polite" and that his speech patterns were mumbled, slow and slurred.

Budenholzer issued an apology in a statement released by his attorney, Michael Hawkins.

"I take my role as a leader very seriously and hold myself to a high standard," Budenholzer said. "I apologize to the fans and to the Hawks organization for any negative attention this incident has brought upon my family and the organization while the legal process evolves and I contest these misdemeanor charges."

Budenholzer, who was released from jail on \$1,524 bond, entered a not guilty plea at Atlanta Municipal Court on Thursday, according to Hawkins.

Hawks general manager

Danny Ferry said in a statement that Budenholzer immediately informed him of the arrest and that team officials are gathering more information.

"We take this matter seriously and have been in constant communication with coach Budenholzer throughout this situation," Ferry said in a second statement released Thursday afternoon. "We support him during this legal process and will let that take its course."

Hawkins said Budenholzer asked to consult with an attorney before his arrest. Hawkins said Budenholzer volunteered at the jail to take both a breathalyzer and a blood alcohol test and was denied both requests.

Hawkins said following Budenholzer's release from

jail, the coach went to Piedmont Hospital where his blood alcohol was tested at .01, well below the legal limit of .08. Hawkins said that test came "several hours" after the arrest.

Budenholzer, 44, a former longtime San Antonio Spurs assistant, was named the Hawks coach May 29.

He spent 19 years with the Spurs, including 17 seasons as an assistant. He was the top assistant for coach Gregg Popovich the past six years.

Ferry and Budenholzer worked together in San Antonio. Ferry came to the Hawks last year after two years as vice president of basketball operations for the Spurs.

Budenholzer was hired to replace Larry Drew, who now is the Milwaukee Bucks' coach.

## NBA's Lamar Odom arrested for DUI in Los Angeles

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Basketball star Lamar Odom was arrested for allegedly driving under the influence early Friday after a California Highway Patrol officer saw his white Mercedes-Benz traveling erratically on a San Fernando Valley Freeway.

The husband of reality TV star Khloe Kardashian was stopped shortly before 4 a.m. and was arrested after a field sobriety test.

The CHP said Odom's car was

observed traveling in a "serpentine manner" before he pulled off the freeway.

"Mr. Odom showed objective signs of intoxication and was unable to perform field sobriety tests," the CHP said in a report. Authorities said he later declined to take a chemical test.

Odom, 33, was booked for investigation of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs and jailed on \$15,000 bail.

He was released Friday morning after posting bail.

A message for his agent, Jeff Schwartz, wasn't immediately returned.

The 6-foot-10-inch forward has played for the Los Angeles Lakers and Clippers, the Miami Heat and Dallas Mavericks.

Odom broke into the NBA with the Clippers in 1999, playing for them for four seasons before spending the 2003-04

season with the Heat.

He had his best years during his six seasons with the Lakers, beginning in 2004-05. The team won NBA championships in 2010 and 2011 and Odom won the NBA's sixth man award in 2011.

After spending the 2012 season with the Dallas Mavericks, he returned to the Clippers last year. He became a free agent at the end of the season.



# Kershaw hit hard, Dodgers top Rockies; Puig hurt



**DENVER**  
(AP)—Clayton Kershaw

surrendered a career-high 11 hits in five shaky innings and got the win and Yasiel Puig scored the go-ahead run before leaving with a strained right knee as the surging Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Colorado Rockies 10-8 on Monday.

Puig was called out for interference on the bases in the first inning. He then hurt his knee on an awkward slide into third base and gingerly jogged home on Hanley Ramirez's sacrifice fly in the sixth, before being replaced in right field.

Andre Ethier had three hits, including a two-run homer, as the Dodgers won their fifth straight. The NL West leaders are 35-8 since the All-Star break.

Kershaw (14-8) gave up five runs as his ERA jumped from a league-leading 1.72 to 1.89. He was productive at the plate, lining a two-run single.

Jeff Manship (0-5) took the loss in relief.



Los Angeles Dodgers' Yasiel Puig talks with teammates after he was called for runner's interference while advancing from first to second base against the Colorado Rockies in the first inning of a baseball game in Denver on Monday, Sept. 2, 2013.

## Pirates 5, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, Neil Walker hit a three-run homer and Charlie Morton pitched seven strong innings as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat Milwaukee to retake the NL Central lead.

The Pirates moved one game ahead of St. Louis. Pittsburgh won the opener of a nine-game road trip.

Walker's homer made it 5-1 in the seventh.

Morton (7-3) gave up seven hits and one earned run. He won his fourth straight decision.

Mark Melancon pitched the ninth for his 10th save in 12 chances.

Tyler Thornburg (1-1) allowed two runs in six innings.

## Reds 7, Cardinals 2

In Cincinnati, Choo Shin-soo and Joey Votto homered as Cincinnati roughed up Adam Wainwright for the second start in a row, leading Mat Latos and the Reds over the St. Louis Cardinals in the opener of a four-game series between the NL Central rivals.

Latos (14-5) gave up four hits in his first complete game of the year.

The Cardinals took two of three in St. Louis last week, the only loss coming when the Reds tagged Wainwright (15-9) for nine runs in a career-low two innings. They had his number again on Monday, piling up six runs and 10 hits in six innings.

## Phillies 3, Nationals 2

In Philadelphia, Carlos Ruiz hit a tiebreaking RBI single in Philadelphia's two-run eighth inning, helping the Phillies get the victory.

Cesar Hernandez started the winning rally with a two-out walk against Tyler Clippard (6-3). He came around to score on Jimmy Rollins' double. After Chase Utley was walked inten-

tionally, Ruiz drove in Rollins with a single to left.

B.J. Rosenberg (1-0) recorded the final out of the eighth for the win and Jonathan Papelbon finished for his 24th save in 30 chances.

The Nationals put runners on the corners with one out in the ninth, but Wilson Ramos was called out on strikes and Anthony Rendon struck out swinging to end the game.

Ryan Zimmerman homered for Washington, which had won nine of 12.

## Braves 13, Mets 5

In Atlanta, Freddie Freeman homered, doubled and tied a career high with five RBIs, powering the Atlanta Braves past the New York Mets.

Freeman put the Braves ahead with a two-run double off Daisuke Matsuzaka in the first inning. Freeman made it 6-1 with a three-run homer a dozen rows deep into the right-field seats in the second.

Jordan Schafer got four hits and stole three bases for Atlanta before leaving with a lower back strain. Andrelton Simmons drove in three runs.

The NL East leaders matched their season high for runs and have won seven of eight.

Paul Maholm (10-10) snapped his four-game losing streak. Matsuzaka (0-3) lasted only three innings and has a 10.95 ERA in three starts since signing with the Mets.

## Blue Jays 4, Diamondbacks 1

In Phoenix, Esmil Rogers pitched 6 1-3 innings of one-hit ball and Edwin Encarnacion hit his 35th home run to lead the Toronto

Blue Jays over Arizona.

Rogers (4-7) struck out five and walked one. Casey Janssen got his 27th save.

Diamondbacks starter Brandon McCarthy (3-9) pitched a five-hitter for his second complete game of the season.

## Padres 4, Giants 1

In San Diego, Ian Kennedy beat an NL West opponent for the first time in 12 starts this season, pitching the San Diego Padres past the San Francisco Giants.

Kennedy (6-9) gave up one run and five hits over six innings while striking out seven. He is 3-1 with a 4.04 ERA since the Padres got him in a trade with Arizona on July 31.

Kennedy improved to 1-5 with a 4.97 ERA in his starts against NL West teams this year.

Huston Street worked a spotless ninth to earn his 26th save in 27 chances.

Barry Zito (4-11) lost his eighth straight decision. He has won only once in his last 20 starts.

Zito was pulled after four innings, allowing four earned runs on four hits and three walks. He fell to 0-9 with a 10.00 ERA in his last 11 starts away from AT&T Park.

## Marlins 4, Cubs 3

In Chicago, Henderson Alvarez hit his first career home run and pitched six innings before exiting with a hamstring injury as the Miami Marlins beat the Chicago Cubs.

Alvarez hit a three-run shot off Travis Wood in the second inning and also had a single and a sacrifice bunt.

Alvarez (3-3) allowed three runs and seven hits in six in-

nings before he left with a tight right hamstring in his first career appearance against the Cubs.

Steve Cishek earned his 29th save in 31 chances for the Marlins, who have won two straight after losing six in a row.

Wood (8-11) allowed four runs and nine hits in seven innings.

## Athletics 4, Rangers 2

In Oakland, California, Coco Crisp hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the fifth that was confirmed by a video review as the Oakland Athletics pulled into a first-place tie with Texas atop the American League West by beating the Rangers.

Yoenis Cespedes homered leading off the second inning and Chris Young added an RBI single in Oakland's fourth straight win.

Crisp set a career high with his 17th homer that stayed just fair of the left-field foul pole, topping his 16 for Cleveland in 2005. He fouled a ball off the area below his right knee in the sixth. He stayed in and struck out, and then was removed for what the team called a shin contusion.

Dan Straily (8-7) won back-to-back starts for the first time since early July and Grant Balfour got three outs for his 36th save.

David Murphy hit a tying two-run shot in the Texas fifth for his first homer since Aug. 1. Rangers starter Derek Holland (9-7) allowed four runs, three earned, and five hits in 4 2-3 innings.

## Tigers 3, Red Sox 0

In Boston, Doug Fister rebounded from a miserable start with

seven sharp innings, helping Detroit beat Boston in a matchup of teams with the AL's best records.

The Tigers won despite missing Miguel Cabrera for the third straight game. He has been sidelined by a strained abdomen, though general manager Dave Dombrowski said the Triple Crown winner has been more hampered by a groin problem.

The AL Central-leading Tigers won for the fourth time in five games.

Fister (12-7) allowed four hits, struck out four and walked four. Jose Veras worked the ninth for his 21st save and second with the Tigers, finishing the six-hit shutout.

John Lackey (8-12) was the tough-luck loser, giving up three runs and seven hits over 7 1-3 innings.

## Angels 11, Rays 2

In Anaheim, California, Garrett Richards worked around a career-high seven walks over five innings and Erick Aybar drove in four runs for the surging Angels.

Richards (5-6) gave up a run and two hits while striking out six in the opener of a four-game series. The seven walks matched Richards' total from his previous five starts combined, but the Rays stranded eight runners while he was in the game and 12 altogether.

Ben Zobrist drove in both of Tampa Bay's runs with a first-inning homer and a sixth-inning single. The Rays have lost five straight and eight of nine to fall 6 1/2 games behind AL East-leading Boston.

Rookie Chris Archer (8-6) threw 90 pitches in 3 2-3 innings, giving up five runs and nine hits in a rematch of his 4-1 victory against Richards last Wednesday. The right-hander's outing was the second-shortest of his 22 big league starts.

The Angels have won nine of 10.

## Orioles 7, Indians 2

In Cleveland, Bud Norris stayed unbeaten as a starter with Baltimore and Nate McLouth homered and had three RBIs.

Norris (10-10) allowed one run—a homer to Jason Kipnis—and four hits in seven innings. The right-hander improved to 4-0 as a starter with the Orioles, who acquired him at the July 31 trading deadline from Houston. He lost once in relief.

Matt Wieters hit a two-run homer in the ninth and Brian Roberts drove in two runs for the Orioles, who came in three games behind Oakland and Tampa Bay in the wild-card race.

The Indians lost for the sixth time in seven games and could be without All-Star Justin Masterson (14-10) for the most important stretch of their season. Masterson left in the second with soreness in his left side.

## Yankees 9, White Sox 1

In New York, Derek Jeter end-

ed a slump with two hits and two RBIs and Alex Rodriguez reached base twice in an eight-run fourth inning as the Yankees beat the White Sox in a game interrupted for nearly two hours by rain.

A day after giving up seven runs in the seventh inning in a loss to wild-card rival Baltimore, the Yankees rocked reliever Dylan Axelrod and took advantage of the sloppy White Sox for their most productive inning since Oct. 1.

With thunder clapping in the first inning, Jeter had a run-scoring single off Jose Quintana (7-5) to stop an 0-for-14 slide. The Yankees bats then made all the noise after a 1-hour, 53-minute delay.

Alfonso Soriano, Mark Reynolds, Austin Romine, Vernon Wells, Brett Gardner and Jeter all drove in runs during the fourth-inning barrage. The offensive outburst made life easy on David Huff (2-0), who entered for Phil Hughes with one out in the second when play resumed.

## Royals 3, Mariners 1

In Kansas City, Missouri, Will Smith had a career-high eight strikeouts in a dominant relief performance, helping Kansas City get the win.

Smith (2-1) allowed one hit in 4 1-3 innings. He finished with the most strikeouts by a Royals reliever since Tom Gordon struck out eight over 4 2-3 innings against Detroit on July 9, 1993.

Seattle ace Felix Hernandez (12-9) lost his fourth consecutive start. The ace right-hander allowed three runs and six hits in 6 2-3 innings.

Hernandez departed after his back cramped up while he was pitching to Alex Gordon. But Hernandez said he will be OK.

The Royals scored two runs in the fifth to open a 3-1 lead. Jarrod Dyson came home on a wild pitch, and Emilio Bonifacio added a sacrifice fly.

Greg Holland pitched a one-hit ninth for his 37th save in 39 opportunities.

## Twins 10, Astros 6

In Houston, rookie Chris Colabello homered twice for Minnesota, including a tiebreaking grand slam in the ninth inning.

It was 6-all before Chien-Jen Lo (0-3) allowed a single to Brian Dozier with one out in the ninth. Doug Bernier and Chris Herrmann drew two-out walks on full-count pitches before Colabello hit the next pitch into the bullpen in right-center.

It was the first career grand slam for Colabello, who ended a 0-for-23 skid with a single on Sunday.

Chris Carter and Jason Castro drove in two runs apiece for the Astros, who have lost six of seven.

Josh Roenicke (3-1) pitched two hitless innings for the win.



# Ol'Aces force three-way tie for U15 lead

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



The Ol'Aces ended DYS' winning run in the U15 division of the 22nd Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League after notching a 39-33 victory last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With the Ol'Aces beating DYS and KFC/Taco earlier routing the DA Projects in the first game last weekend, there is now a three-way tie for the lead in the six-team field. The

Ol'Aces, DYS, and KFC/Taco Bell hold similar 3-1 records for the top spot and are followed by the Rollers (2-2), Rebelholics (1-3) and the winless DA Projects (0-4).

The Ol'Aces stunned the erstwhile leader after limiting DYS to single digits in scoring in the last three quarters. Before its lethargic offense in the last three periods, DYS managed to take a 13-8 lead in the first eight minutes of play. John Samuel Darag led DYS' good start, scoring 7 points before he was held to one field goal each in the last three frames.

DYS hung on to a shaky 1-point lead at halftime, 20-19, but eventually lost the upper hand when the Ol'Aces logged their second double-digit output in the third. The Ol'Aces had 10 markers in the second and third periods with four players at least contributing two field goals apiece to put their team on top, 30-26.

The Ol'Aces kept the lead in the fourth, as DYS only traded shots with them. Dustin Sablan and Dachelbai Cruz top-scored for the Ol'Aces with their 11 points each, while Darag had 15

for DYS.

## KFC 47, DA Projects 23

KFC recovered from its sorry loss to DYS in Week 3 after crushing DA Projects in the first game.

KFC outgunned DA Projects right in the first half, as the latter only made three field goals in the opening 16 minutes of the match. Jun Alipio and Art Borromeo scored 4 points apiece in the first period to lift KFC to a 10-4 lead, and the team made its last three baskets from the 3-point area to start a breakaway, 21-6.

With DA Projects lacking

manpower as only seven players showed up for the match, there was no way it could overall KFC's lead in the second half.

Borromeo led KFC with his 10 points and his seven other teammates made it to the scoreboard. Only four players contributed in DA Project's cause.

Meanwhile, the Rollers was awarded a win via forfeiture as the Rebelholics did not have enough players for the second game last Saturday.

## First Game

KFC 47 – Borromeo 10,

Alipio 8, Morales 7, Amog 6, Wong 5, JP Cruz 4, Ogasawara 4, Je. Cruz 3.

**DA Projects 23** – Du. Laxa 10, Basa 6, Tarope 4, Itaas 3.

**Scoring by quarters:** 10-4, 21-6, 27-16, 47-23.

## Second Game

**Ol'Aces 39** – Sablan 11, Cruz 11, Lazaro 8, Aquininoc 3, Olopai 2, Nabors 2.

**DYS 33** – Darag 15, Flores 5, Mendoza 5, De Leon 4, Ellama 2, Ong 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 9-13, 19-20, 30-26, 39-33.

# A win, and validation, for Henrik Stenson



**NORTON, Mass.** (AP)—Henrik Stenson didn't need a big trophy to prove himself that he belonged among the elite in golf.

After enduring the second slump of his career—the latest a product of bad play more than a lost swing—he began to turn the corner late last year by winning the South African Open. He was back in all the majors again for the first time since 2010. And he was playing better than anyone in the summer.

A runner-up to Phil Mickelson in the British Open and to Tiger Woods in a World Golf Championship. A tie for third in the PGA Championship.

The 37-year-old Swede broke through on Labor Day with his best performance of the year to win the Deutsche Bank Championship.

"It's been long, hard work

getting back to this place," Stenson said. "Playing as well as I've done in these last couple of months, there's no magic, no quick fix. It's just hard work. It's been a good four months, and I hope I can keep it going."

He started the final round two shots behind Sergio Garcia, surged ahead with three straight birdies, came out even sharper after a two-hour rain delay, and put away Steve Stricker by holing a bunker shot on the 17th hole.

Stenson closed with a 5-under 66 for a two-shot victory over Stricker. He didn't refer to it so much as validation as "icing on the cake."

"I was longing for a win, and I got it," said Stenson, who tied a tournament record at 22-under 262 on the rain-softened TPC Boston.

He wasn't the only guy who felt like a winner, nor was he the only player who felt the nerves.

The Deutsche Bank Championship, the second of four FedEx Cup playoff events, had a little something for everyone on a wild and rainy Monday. It starts with Stenson, who moved to No. 1 in the FedEx Cup and is assured a clear shot at the \$10 million prize at the Tour Championship.

Coming out of the rain delay, the focus shifted to the top 70 players in the FedEx Cup standings who would advance to the third playoff event at Conway Farms north of Chicago in two weeks.

Brendan Steele thought his season was over until he birdied his last four holes, the last one with a 2-iron onto the green at the par-5 18th. Steele knew his only chance was to tie with Ernie Els—he was three points ahead in the standings going into the weeks—and they were in the same group.

"I did everything that I can

do, especially on a day that wasn't going my way for a long time," Steele said.

Els made par on the 18th and both finished at 12-under 272. Els figured he would be the odd man out with so many players still on the golf course, all of whom in position to drop him lower in the standings.

"It feels like I just missed the cut," Els said when he finished.

But the Big Easy was given a big reprieve. K.J. Choi made a bogey on the par-5 18th. Charley Hoffman made bogey on the 17th. Kevin Chappell missed an 8-foot birdie putt on the last hole. That combination was enough for Els to grab the 70th spot by a fraction of a point.

Stricker's third runner-up finish this year allowed him to move into the top 10 and qualify for the Presidents Cup team, despite playing a part-time schedule. That put the 10th spot up for

grabs between Webb Simpson and Zach Johnson, who were playing together on the other side of the course.

They were tied at 8 under—big advantage to Simpson—until the former U.S. Open champion dropped two shots on the last four holes. Johnson faced a 25-foot birdie putt on his last hole that determined whether he made the team, and he poured it in the middle.

Johnson last week gave up a chance to earn points by skipping The Barclays to be in his brother's wedding.

Lost in all this commotion was Jordan Spieth, the 20-year-old Texan dressed in a shirt with the Dallas Cowboys' silver-and-blue colors. He went birdie-birdie-eagle at the end of his round for a 62 right before the rain delay.

With such soft conditions, his 17-under 267 was never going to hold up. Spieth wound up tied for fourth, and is No. 10 in the FedEx Cup standings. He is assured of becoming the first player since Woods in 1996 to start a season with no status and reach the Tour Championship. Woods, however, did it in seven tournaments.

Whether it was enough to make the Presidents Cup as a captain's pick won't be decided until Fred Couples announces his selections on Wednesday.

Stenson's win was only part of the high drama Monday, so much that Woods became an afterthought. He closed with a 73 and tied for 65th. The best

image of him all day was walking back out to the course after a rain delay with he and his 6-year-old daughter dressed in matching red.

All that mattered to Stenson was the trophy.

It looked like it might go down to the last hole when Stricker, two shots behind, reached the par-5 18th in two and faced a long eagle putt. Behind him, Stenson finally blinked and pulled his approach into a bunker on the 17th.

Right when the tournament was in doubt, Stenson holed the bunker shot to effectively wrap up the win. Stricker could hear the roar.

"I just kind of rolled my eyes," Stricker said. "But I told my caddie that he's been knocking at the door for a couple of months. And he's been playing some great golf. ... Good for him. Great shot. Like I say, he's been knocking at the door for quite some time and finally got his win."

Stenson got his win. Stricker made the Presidents Cup team. Els got a reprieve.

Garcia, meanwhile, fell to 3-8 when having at least a share of the 54-hole lead on the PGA Tour. He closed with a 73 and tied for fourth.

Stenson was outside the top 200 in the world at the start of last season, and this win took him up to No. 6—almost where he was when he captured the Match Play Championship six years ago. Back where to he felt like he belonged the whole time.

## 158 GOLFERS

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Championship honors went to J.J. Atalig with a low score of 61, with Jason Yi (63) and Nick Sablan (65) taking second and third place, respectively.

This year's A flight champion is Rene Batallones with a score of 55 followed by Enoch Sungsoo Lim (58) winning a playoff hole against Joji Taguchi (58) to take second and third place, respectively. Joel Hocog from Rota shot a low score of 56 to take the B flight followed by yet another scorecard playoff that put Luther Taylor (59) in second

place and Ulysses Kapileo (59) in third place.

Jim Arevnoski led the way in the C flight with a low score of 48 followed by yet another scorecard playoff which put John Poiroux (53) in second and Ray Santos (53) in third. In the senior's flight, it was Rep. Tony Benavente shooting a low score of 52 to take the honors followed by Don Dunlap (56) in second and Guam's Andy Leon Guerrero (57) in third.

"There are so many companies and individuals to thank for making this tournament a huge success. Without their support, none of the success we experienced would have been possible" say Nelson. This year's major

sponsors include: First Hawaiian Bank, DFS Saipan Ltd., Mobil, Marianas Management Corporation, Bank of Guam, Marianas Visitors Authority, and Tan Siu Lin Foundation.

The hole-in-one sponsors are Joeten Motors, Bank of Hawaii and Triple J Motors. Classic Sponsors include the Fiesta Resort, Delta Air Lines, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacifica Insurance, Kautz Glass, Saipan Shipping Company, DataDot Micronesia, Triple B Freight Forwarders and the Pacific Islands Club.

Media sponsors were the *Saipan Tribune*, *Marianas Variety*, Sorenson Media Group, KKMP, and KWAU 103 FM.

Refreshment sponsors included Dickerson & Quinn, Clean & Green, Pacific Trading Corp., Sorenson Pacific, and MarPac. There were also over 20 classic contributors that donated raffle prizes.

"It really is heartwarming to see the support from the business community, volunteers and participants for this worthwhile event. We must do all we can to support non-profit organizations that have a direct impact on tourism and our student community," said Nelson.

For more information, contact James Nelson at 483-4924 or email jnelson@docomopacific.com. (*Saipan Tribune*)

## CBC

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other Final Four pairing ended after only two games with Park beating Celso Agui, 21-14, 21-12. Agui went on to complete the Top 3 after outlasting Ortega in the consolation match, 21-16, 18-21, 21-14.

Meanwhile, CBC bets annexed two more championships after prevailing in Class A and B doubles.

Galvez and Caranto paired and swept veterans and Saipan

Badminton Club's Glenn Bluutjents and Sam Jones in the finals, 21-15, 21-16. The winning duo barged into the title match after edging fellow CBC players Pangilinan and Macario in the first Final Four tiff, 21-13, 18-21, 21-19. Bluutjents and Jones earned the right to face the CBC tandem after downing Aguda and Arago in the other semis game, 21-13, 21-15. Arago and Aguda also lost the consolation game against Macario and Pangilinan, 16, 21, 18-21.

Macario and Pangilinan joined forces anew in the Class B

doubles and needed three games to thwart Shirley's Badminton Club's Brandon Talania and Chris Hilario in the finals, 21-15, 18-21, 21-15. Oh and Joel Ortega of Saipan Badminton Club rounded out the Top 3 after winning over Joseph Santos and Aries Cordero, 21-15, 21-17. The CBC pair cruised past Santos and Cordero in the semis, 21-14, 21-15, while the other semis game went the distance with Hilario and Talania winning versus Oh and Ortega, 18-21, 21-16, 21-19.

The Class C finals was also an extended match with Saipan

Badminton Club's Yun Jun Lee and Jong Min Lee outlasting TAGA Badminton Club's Panapa Peteru and Agui in the finals, 21-15, 18-21, 22-20. Jun Lee and Min Lee came from a three-game victory, too against Son Jae Ok and Yong Sang You in the semis, 21-15, 17-21, 21-15, while Peteru and Agui coasted past Park and Cai in the other Final Four pairing, 21-15, 21-14.

Meanwhile, results in the women's singles and doubles will be published in *Saipan Tribune's* Friday edition.

## LEINA

From Page 28

highly-competitive tournament, returned to Colorado last week after a vacation on Saipan. She was on island for over a month and participated in the 2013 Tournament of Champions where she notched her fourth straight Ladies Flight crown and sixth overall in the annual competition after slipping past junior golfer Jeong Yoon Kim by only one stroke.

With the Marianas Baptist Academy graduate now back in Colorado, the Thundewolves are favored to reclaim the RMAC championship in the 2013-2014 season, according to the RMAC Preseason Golf Coaches Poll.

CSU-Pueblo lost last year's title to Western New Mexico and Kim finished third overall in the RMAC Championships.

Kim's CSU-Pueblo will be competing in the RMAC championship this season against the second-ranked Western New Mexico, Colorado Mesa, Regis, Adams State, Blackhill State, Chadron State, Colorado Christian, Metro State, and UC-Colorado Springs. In the men's division, CSU-Pueblo is picked second behind Colorado Mines, which is bannered by Preseason Golf of the Year Michael Lee.

Meanwhile, Kim and company will start the season this weekend (Sept. 7 and 8), as they host the first RMAC tournament at the Desert Hawk Golf Course in Pueblo West.



# Saipan Soccer School Youth Coaching Clinic

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Participants and instructors in the Saipan Soccer School Youth Coaching Clinic pose for a group photo during a break in their session last Saturday at the San Antonio Elementary School.



AFC License B coach Jason Chung, left, and former Hong Kong National Team player Kwok On "David" Tsui, center, of Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong gesture to NMIFA president Jerry Tan while watching participants' small sided games.



AFC License B coach Jason Chung and Kwok On "David" Tsui of Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong demonstrate a drill.



Kwok On "David" Tsui of Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong watches two participants perform a drill.



MP United's Enrico Del Rosario gets away from his defender during a small sided game.



Kanoa FC, MP United FC, and Tan Holdings FC representatives play in a small sided game.



Participants listen to the instructions of Kwok On "David" Tsui of Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong.



From left, Jerswin Angele, Mae Ito, and Ruselle Zapanta of Saipan Soccer School get ready to feed the ball to the players during a small sided game.



A Tinian Premier FC representative practices his shooting skills, while other clinic participants wait for their turn.



Saipan Soccer School's Jerswin Angeles gives instructions to the second group of players before heading to the pitch for a small sided game.





# Saipan Tribune Sports



28 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## CBC players sweep singles titles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Community Badminton Club players racked up all the men's singles crowns in the Shirley's Badminton Classic.



In the Class A singles, Andreau Galvez defended his title after beating the Berks Blazers' Ferdie Arago in their finals rematch last Monday at the TSL Sports Complex. Galvez, who downed Arago in the 2012 finals, 21-18, 21-14, also took only two games to bag the championship, 21-15, 21-14.

Earlier in the semifinals last Saturday, Galvez eliminated Macoi Aguda, 23-16, 21-16, to book the first finals ticket. Arago clinched the second and last finals seat after ousting Jexler Caranto, 21-14, 21-17. Aguda went on to join Galvez and Arago in the Top 3 after outclassing Caranto in the consolation game, 21-16, 21-16.

In the Class B finals, Jordan Pangilinan prevailed in the all-CBC duel, topping doubles teammate Ezekiel Macario, 21-15, 21-18. Pangilinan and Macario arranged their title match after sweeping their respective semis foes last Friday. Pangilinan booted 2012 finalist Oh Im Bog, 21-15, 21-18, while Macario triumphed over Deether Edralin, 22-20, 21-12. Edralin saved third place after slipping past Oh, 21-14, 16-21, 21-19.

After falling short in the Class B singles, Edralin managed to take a title victory later, as he won the Class C finals against Kevin Park, 21-16, 21-12. Edralin made it to the finals after surviving fellow youth player A.J. Ortega in the semis, 21-16, 18-21, 21-13. The

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Andreau Galvez stretches for a return to Macoi Aguda during their semis game in the men's Class A singles of the 2013 Shirley's Badminton Classic last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

### Leina gets another award



Kim

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Former CNMI junior golfer Leina Kim added another feather to her cap, as she was named RMAC Preseason Golfer of the Year late last month.

Kim in her debut season with the Colorado State University-Pueblo earlier bagged both the RMAC 2012-2013 RMAC Golfer of the Year and Freshman of the Year plums. RMAC stands for Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, a collegiate athletic conference that participates in

NCAA Division II.

The conference announced the preseason picks last Aug. 30 (Aug. 31 on Saipan) and also named Kim to the All-RMAC Honors. She got the most votes from the coaches to earn the top spot in selection. Joining the 21-year-old golfer on the elite list were her teammates Domi Dinallo and Michaela Breit, Regis' Nicole Hulbert and Colorado Christian's Maria Manrique.

Kim, who was the lone CSU-Pueblo golfer to make it to last season's NCAA II Division National Championships and finished 28th in the

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### 158 golfers converge at Docomo Pacific Golf Classic

It was a perfect day for what has become one of Saipan's most anticipated golf tournaments. The Mariana Country Club and the tournament organizers and volunteers welcomed 158 golfers from Saipan, Rota, Tinian, and Guam to the 4th Annual Docomo Pacific Golf Classic.

"It was a welcome surprise to have so many golfers turn out in support of MTEC (Marianas Tourism Education Council) and the tournament," said Docomo Pacific Saipan general manager James Nelson.

"It was a record-setting day for the tournament with 158 golfers, the most in the tournament's short four-year history,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

J.J. Atalig poses with Docomo Pacific Saipan general manager James Nelson after topping the championship flight of the 4th Annual Docomo Pacific Golf Classic last Saturday at the Mariana Country Club.

as well as raffle ticket sales of over \$8,000, which more than doubled last year's effort," according to Nelson.

With more than \$50,000 in prizes up for grabs, some of the lucky raffle ticket holders walked away with fabulous prizes that ranged from Gucci handbags, flat screen TV sets, golf bags, shopping sprees, over-night stays, meals, and more.

The tournament winners included a repeat champion in the ladies flight with Chang Eun Ae scoring a 54 to take first place honors. She was followed by Kim Yang (55) in second and Kim Jeong Yoon (58) in third place.

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